



Bath & North East Somerset Placemaking Plan DPD

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Annex A: Policy Plan and Programme Review

Prepared for:
Bath & North East Somerset Council

Prepared by:
ENVIRON
Exeter, UK

Date:
November 2014

Project or Issue Number:
UK18-20351

Contract No:	UK18-20351
Issue:	4
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Date:	November 2014

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Version Control Record				
Issue	Description of Status	Date	Reviewer Initials	Author Initials
1	Draft to client	20/12/12	JC	CM
2	Final version to client	22/08/2013	MF	CYP
3	Final version with updates	27/08/14		VP
4	Final following consultation	24/11/14		VP

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p>
<p>General / Sustainable Communities</p>
<p>International</p>
<p>The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, (September 2002). <i>Commitments arising from Johannesburg Summit</i></p> <p>The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) represents a reaffirmation of international commitment to sustainable development coming 30 years after the Stockholm commitment to tackle environmental degradation and ten years after the Rio Summit and Declaration of 1992.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>The key outcomes of the summit were the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development – from our origins to the future, and a Key Outcomes statement mapping out commitments made by all parties.</p> <p>A number of the sustainable development commitments originating from WSSD, are relevant to land use planning, and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate energy into country-led poverty reduction processes; • Remove market barriers and create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency; • Greater resource efficiency (incl. decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation); and • Support business innovation and take-up of best practice in technology and management; work on waste and producer responsibility.
<p>Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st10/st10917.en06.pdf</p> <p>The overall aim of the renewed EU SDS is to identify and develop actions to enable the EU to achieve continuous improvement of quality of life both for current and for future generations, through the creation of sustainable communities able to manage and use resources efficiently and to tap the ecological and social innovation potential of the economy, ensuring prosperity, environmental protection and social cohesion.</p> <p>Key Objectives</p> <p>Environmental Protection, Social equity and Cohesion, Economic Prosperity, Meeting our international responsibility.</p> <p>Policy Guiding Principles</p> <p>Promotion and protection fundamental rights, Solidarity within and between generations, Open and democratic society, Involvement of citizens. Involvement of Businesses and social partners, Policy coherence and governance, Policy integration, Use best available knowledge, precautionary principle and Make polluters pay.</p>
<p>National</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (May 2012)</p> <p>The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government's requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities. The National Planning Policy Framework constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications.</p> <p>At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking.</p> <p>For plan-making this means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area; • Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:

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- any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or
- specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.

For decision-taking this means:

- approving development proposals that accord with the development plan without delay; and
- where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of-date, granting permission unless:
 - any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or
 - specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.

Securing the future: delivering UK sustainable development strategy Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Mar 2005)

Sustainable development is defined as that which enables all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life of future generations. A set of five shared UK guiding principles support the achievement of sustainable development. They are:

1. Living within environmental limits;

Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity – to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations.

2. Ensuring a strong health and just society;

Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all.

3. Achieving a sustainable economy;

Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is incentivised.

4. Promoting good governance;

Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people's creativity, energy, and diversity.

5. Using sound science responsibly;

Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.

Rural White Paper: Our Countryside –the Future – a Fair Deal for Rural England (DETR 2000)

"Our vision is of rural areas evolving in ways which enhance landscape and biodiversity. It is of a forward looking and competitive farming industry, delivering good stewardship of the environment as well as producing our food. It is of a rural economy based on information technology as well as on traditional skills. In short, not a theme park, but a living, working countryside for real people. We want a countryside which can shape its own future, with its voice heard by Government at all levels."

For country residents:

- Investment in better public services – schools, health, transport and crime reduction – and a rural service standard, reviewed annually
- 3,000 new affordable homes every year in small settlements
- Access to a wide range of day-to-day transactions through post offices, internet and local small businesses
- A bigger say in community planning

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies:**Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA**For rural businesses:

- Investment in market towns and more targeted help from Regional Development Agencies
- Better transport, ICT coverage, skills training and business advice
- Potential reduction in rate bills

For farmers:

- more money for agri-environment schemes; marketing grants, and tailored business advice to help modernise and improve agricultural, horticultural and forestry holdings help with planning to enable farmers to use surplus farm buildings and, less burdensome regulation generally
- help with diversification, marketing and skill training
- Support for small and medium sized abattoirs

For everyone:

- Stronger protection for our most valued landscapes, and for wildlife and habitats.
- More access and a better rights of way network
- A living, working countryside maintained for the benefit of us all, wherever we live

Strong and prosperous communities, The Local Government White Paper DCLG (Oct 2006)

The aim of this White Paper is to give local people and local communities more influence and power to improve their lives. It is about creating strong, prosperous communities and delivering better public services through a rebalancing of the relationship between central government, local government and local people.

Rural Strategy 2004; DEFRA (July 2004)

Rural Strategy 2004 sets out a new devolved and targeted approach to rural policy and delivery over the next three to five years.

The Government's three priorities for rural policy are:

Economic and Social Regeneration - supporting enterprise across rural England, but targeting greater resources at areas of greatest need.

Social Justice for All - tackling rural social exclusion wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services and opportunities for all rural people.

Enhancing the Value of our Countryside - protecting the natural environment for this and future generations.

[Link to new PPS on Sustainable Development](#)

Regional**The Sustainability Shaper", the Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England, (2007)**

The Sustainability Shaper is a Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England. It is an evolving tool for everyone in the region who wants to unlock the benefits of sustainability - from public agencies and voluntary organisations to businesses and individuals.

The South West's Mission for Sustainability Operating Principles is:

- Develop sustainability learning and skills;
- Improve physical and mental well-being;
- Improve equality in meeting basic needs;
- Be resource wise;
- Support thriving low carbon economies;
- Reduce high carbon travel;
- Use local and ethical goods and services;

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- Enhance local distinctiveness and diversity including biodiversity;
- Help everyone to join in public decision-making; and
- Take a long term approach.

Local**Bath and North East Somerset; Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals and waste polices (October 2007)**

The Local Plan sets out policies which guide how and where development should take place up to the year 2011. It seeks to improve the area of Bath and North East Somerset's quality of life. It sets out policies for the use of land in the public interest, enabling development whilst protecting the environment. In deciding whether planning permission should be granted, the Local Plan is the single most important consideration.

The Local Plan will help protect and enhance the character of places that are locally valued and identify areas which would benefit from improvement.

Living and Working*Social Inclusion*

- To enable people to enjoy a better quality of life.
- To enable development which meets the needs of all sections of the community.

Resources

- To promote the best possible use of existing resources and infrastructure and encourage the reuse of land and buildings.
- To provide for the safe and sustainable management of waste.
- To reduce all forms of pollution and emissions including air, noise and light, pollution.
- To ensure that adequate infrastructure is in place to serve all new development.

Housing

- To meet the District's housing needs by providing a range of housing types, including affordable homes, at locations with convenient access especially by means other than the car to employment, shops, services and other community and recreational uses.

Economy

- To maintain and enhance Bath's regional, sub-regional and local importance as a centre for business and employment.
- To maintain and enhance opportunities for business and employment in the towns of Keynsham and Norton-Radstock.
- To provide for business and industrial development in locations which respond to competitive needs, are readily accessible by a variety of means of transport and which are well related to housing areas.

Urban Areas

- To enhance the role of Bath, Keynsham and Norton-Radstock as attractive, safe places to live and work.

Rural Areas

- To improve sustainability of rural areas, enhancing economic and social vitality and accessibility while maintaining and enhancing character and local distinctiveness.

Shopping, Services and Leisure

- To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of City, town and local neighbourhood and community centres in urban and rural areas.
- To ensure provision of sufficient, good quality and accessible community, leisure and recreational facilities and open space including improved access to the countryside.

Environmental Assets

- To conserve, enhance and make positive use of the historic environment.

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve and enhance the local character and distinctiveness of settlements and the countryside. • To secure the effective stewardship of the area's biodiversity (wildlife and habitats), and geology. • To secure improvements to degraded landscapes and derelict land • To conserve and reduce the consumption of non-renewable resources including greenfield land, soils, minerals, water and fossil fuels. • To maintain and improve the quality of water resources necessary for the wellbeing of the natural environment and for consumption. <p>Transport and Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To co-ordinate development and transport measures to reduce car-usage and to ensure alternative forms of transport are available in an integrated way. • To increase accessibility by a choice of means of transport including public transport, cycling and walking. • To maximise the safety of all types of movement. • To reduce the adverse impact of all forms of travel on the natural and built environment.
<p>Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2016 (Bath & North East Somerset Strategic Partnership, 2009)</p>
<p>See Population, Human Health and Social inclusion section</p>

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<p>Air Quality and Noise</p>
<p>International</p>
<p>EU Air Quality Framework and Daughter Directives (96/62/EC) (1999/30/EC) (2000/69/EC) (2002/3/EC) (2004/107/EC) European Parliament and Council</p>
<p>To maintain ambient-air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases with respect to ozone, benzene and carbon monoxide, arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead.</p> <p>The Directives seeks to define and establish objectives for ambient air quality to avoid reduce or prevent harmful effects on human health and the environment as whole.</p>
<p>Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe</p>
<p>This new Directive includes the following key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The merging of most of existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive) with no change to existing air quality objectives*; • New air quality objectives for PM_{2.5} (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives – exposure concentration obligation and exposure reduction target; • The possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values; and • The possibility for time extensions of three years (PM₁₀) or up to five years (NO₂, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. <p>Member States are required to reduce exposure to PM_{2.5} in urban areas by an average of 20% by 2020 based on 2010 levels. It obliges them to bring exposure levels below 20 micrograms / m³ by 2015 in these areas. Throughout their territory Member States will need to respect the PM 2.5 limit value set at 25.</p>
<p>European Directive on Noise 2002/49/EU</p>
<p>The Directive aimed at requiring competent authorities in Member States to produce strategic noise maps on the basis of harmonised indicators, to inform the public about noise exposure and its effects, and to draw up action plans to address noise issues.</p> <p>The four main objectives of the directives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor the environmental problem by drawing up strategic noise maps; 2. Informing and consulting the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures considered to address noise; 3. Addressing local noise issues by requiring authorities to draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise where it is good; and 4. Developing a long term EU strategy. <p>The Directive states that MSs must draw up action plan to manage noise issues and effects, including noise reduction by July 2008, but it does not set targets to be met by 2008.</p>
<p>National</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF); DCLG March 2012</p>
<p>In relation to air quality, the NPPF states that planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas.</p> <p>In relation to noise, the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should aim to avoid noise from giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life as a result of new development, and should aim to identify and protect areas of tranquillity which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason.</p> <p>Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan.</p>

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<p>The Environment Act 1995 Part IV Office of the Deputy Prime Minister</p> <p>Placed the requirement on the Secretary of State to produce the National Air Quality Strategy; and Established the statutory requirement for Local Authorities to carry out local Review and Assessments of air quality and where necessary declare Air quality Management Areas and produce Air Quality Action Plans.</p> <p>s. 82 LAs' duty to review the air quality</p> <p>s. 83 Designation of air quality management areas.</p> <p>s. 84 Duties of local authorities in relation to designated</p>
<p>The Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 and 2002 Amendment. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister 2000 and 2002</p> <p>The Air Quality (England) Regulations 2000 and 2002 Amendment.</p> <p>Established the Air Quality Framework Daughter Directives into UK legislation.</p>
<p>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland: DEFRA 2007 Working Together for Clean Air (and addendum 2003) Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, Scottish Executive, National Assembly for Wales and Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>It sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues, sets out details of the objectives to be achieved and introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles, similar to the approach being proposed in the new European air quality directive, which is currently under negotiation. The Strategy also identifies new measures which modelling shows could help achieve significant health benefits and help us move closer towards meeting our targets. These measures have been subject to a thorough analysis of the estimated reductions in air pollution, and quantification and valuation of costs and benefits.</p> <p>The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues; • sets out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved; • introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles; and • identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.
<p>The Urban Environment (26th Report); Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (March 2007)</p> <p>This study examines the environment within urban areas and the wider environmental impacts of towns and cities, and considers the relationship between the urban environment and human health and wellbeing.</p> <p>PRINCIPLES AND KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A BETTER URBAN ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>It should be a fundamental requirement of government policy that towns and cities become more environmentally sustainable and healthy places to live. However, such aspirations will not be met unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban management is guided by an explicit policy for the urban environment; • health and wellbeing are recognised as being inextricably linked with environment; • urban growth and renewal are planned within environmental constraints; • the environment is placed at the heart of urban design, regeneration and management; • there is an integrated approach to the urban environment that takes account of social, physical and economic factors; • there are incentives to reduce negative environmental impacts; and • knowledge, capacity and skills to reduce environmental impacts and promote health and wellbeing are increased and maintained. <p>To put these principles into practice we call for:</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a policy for the urban environment and its impact on health; • an environmental contract between central and local government which also involves the private, voluntary and community sectors; • a major programme to improve the environmental performance of new and existing buildings; • promotion of the natural urban environment and green infrastructure through planning policy; • driving up a range of environmental standards (through the Code for Sustainable Homes, utility pricing and incentives to reduce waste and traffic in urban areas); and • provision of appropriate skills and information.
Government DfT 10 year Transport Plan 2000
See Transport Section
Transport White Paper the Future of Transport A Network for 2030 DfT 2004
See Transport Section
Regional
Regional Transport Strategy
See Transport Section
Final Joint Local Transport Plan 2006
See Transport section
Local
Bath and North East Somerset (April 2011); Air Quality Action Plan
<p>The Air Quality Action Plan for Bath was adopted by the Council in April 2011.</p> <p>It has been developed at a time when a number of inter-related transport initiatives are at varying stages of development, including the Bath Transport Package; CIVITAS initiative; Pulteney Bridge restrictions; increases in City Centre parking charges; and the Greater Bristol Bus Network.</p> <p>Bath and North East Somerset Council has adopted a target of 30% reduction in their own Carbon emissions on 2008 levels by 2014 and 45% for all emissions across the district by 2026.</p> <p>Monitoring of air quality shows that the annual mean national objective for NO₂ is being exceeded at a number of locations along main roads in Bath. This area was consulted on and the major road network area was declared as an Air Quality Management Area for NO₂ in July 2008.</p> <p>Walcot Terrace (just east of the Cleveland junction on London Road); London Road (Snow Hill); and St James' Parade had an annual average concentration of nitrogen dioxide in excess of 60 µg/m³ in 2009 (the national air quality objectives set a standard of 40 µg/m³). Cleveland Place West; Bathwick Street; Broad Street; Somerset Street; The Paragon; Widcombe Parade; Somerset Street (east of Corn Street); Manvers Street; Wells Road (bottom); Kennet House; Morley Terrace; Windsor Bridge; Argyle Terrace and Beckford Road had annual average concentrations in excess of 50 µg/m³ in 2009.</p> <p>The source apportionment shows road traffic contributes up to 92% of the total NO_x concentration, with Heavy Duty Vehicles (HDV's) contributing between 24 and 57.1%. It is recommended therefore that the Action Plan should focus on measures that reduce emissions from HDV's as the primary source of NO_x emissions within Bath.</p>
Air Quality Round 4 Progress Report Bath and North East Somerset (2011)
<p>The Progress Report presents results for monitoring data carried out in 2009/10 in Bath and North East Somerset.</p> <p>Monitoring has shown that there are a number of sites which exceed the annual average NO₂ objective. These sites are all within the current AQMA or the proposed AQMAs. There are no exceedences of the air quality objectives for pollutants within the air quality management process. There are no significant trends in the monitoring data. A detailed assessment is not required for any pollutant.</p>

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A site for a 6-months continuous monitoring in Saltford is being identified.

Local Air Quality Management tasks:

- Variation of Bath AQMA – Summer 2011
- Consult on Saltford AQMA – Summer 2011

Bath and North East Somerset Air Quality Strategy (2002)

Following the publication of the National Air Quality Strategy in 1997, a new regime of managing local air quality was introduced across the UK. The focus of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) is the identification of local pollution hot spots where members of the public might be exposed to future exceedences of specific air quality objectives

The objectives of Local Air Quality Strategy is to thereby identify how Bath & North East Somerset can assist in securing air quality improvements across the local authority, both within the AQMA identified and external to it, through planning frameworks and wider activities within the local authority.

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p>
<p>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</p>
<p>International</p>
<p>EU Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of Wild Birds European Commission</p> <p>This is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the Union.</p> <p>The directive recognises that habitat loss and degradation are the most serious threats to the conservation of wild birds. It therefore places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species (listed in Annex I), especially through the establishment of a coherent network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species. Since 1994 all SPAs form an integral part of the NATURA 2000 ecological network.</p> <p>To maintain the population of 181 endangered species and sub-species at a level that corresponds in particular to ecological, scientific and cultural requirements, while taking account of economic and recreational requirements, or to adapt the population of these species to that level.</p>
<p>EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive 1992)</p> <p>The Habitats Directive (together with the Birds Directive) forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. It is built around two pillars: the Natura 2000 network of protected sites and the strict system of species protection.</p> <p>The aim of the Habitats Directive is to create a coherent European ecological network known as Natura 2000. This network consists of a series of Special Areas of Conservation which protect habitats and species of community interest.</p> <p>All in all the directive protects over 1.000 animals and plant species and over 200 so called "habitat types" (e.g. special types of forests, meadows, wetlands, etc.), which are of European importance.</p>
<p>Managing Natura 2000 sites The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC</p> <p>Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive plays a crucial role in the management of the sites that make up the Natura 2000 network.</p> <p>The document aims at providing guidelines to the MSs on the interpretation of certain key concepts used in Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.</p>
<p>Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites Methodological guidance on the provisions of article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC European Commission Environment DG Nov. 2001</p> <p>The document provides non-mandatory methodology help to carry out or review the assessments required under the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>The Assessments are required where a project or plan may give rise to significant effects upon a Natura 2000 site.</p> <p>Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage one :Screening; • Stage two: Appropriate Assessment; • Stage Three: Assessment of alternative solutions; and • Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain.
<p>European Biodiversity Strategy 1998 European Commission</p> <p>Biological diversity (biodiversity) is essential to maintain life on earth and has important social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values. In addition to its intrinsic value biodiversity determines our resilience to changing circumstances.</p> <p>In spite of past efforts by the Community and its Member States to address the problem of biodiversity reduction or loss, existing measures are insufficient to reverse present trends. It is therefore both essential and urgent for the Community to develop a strategy and take action towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p>

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The Community Biodiversity Strategy is developed around four major Themes. Within each Theme the specific objectives that will need to be achieved in the context of Action Plans and other measures are highlighted.

1. Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
2. Sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
3. Research, identification and monitoring of information.
4. Education, training and awareness.

The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro 1992

4. The objectives of this Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.

The Convention establishes 3 main goals:

- 1. The conservation of biological diversity;
- 2. The sustainable use of its components; and
- 3. The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources.

Article 6a requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable uses of Biological diversity.

Objectives:

To achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth.

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971)

It provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Originally, the Convention was set up to protect wetland habitats for the conservation of waterfowl but it now seeks to ensure the protection of all important wetlands.

"The Convention's mission is the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world" (Ramsar COP8, 2002).

National

UK Biodiversity Action Plan Nov 2000 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) is the UK response to the Convention on biological Diversity which was signed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

OVERALL GOAL

To conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and to contribute to the conservation of global biodiversity through all appropriate mechanisms.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

- 1. Where biological resources are used, such use should be sustainable.
- 2. Wise use should be ensured for non-renewable resources.
- 3. The conservation of biodiversity requires the care and involvement of individuals and communities as well as Governmental processes.
- 4. Conservation of biodiversity should be an integral part of Government programmes, policy and action.
- 5. Conservation practice and policy should be based upon a sound knowledge base.
- 6. The precautionary principle (see glossary) should guide decisions.

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OBJECTIVES FOR CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY

1. To conserve and where practicable to enhance:

- (a) the overall populations and natural ranges of native species and the quality and range of wildlife habitats and ecosystems;
- (b) internationally important and threatened species, habitats and ecosystems;
- (c) species, habitats and natural and managed ecosystems that are characteristic of local areas; and
- (d) the biodiversity of natural and semi-natural habitats where this has been diminished over recent past decades.

2. To increase public awareness of, and involvement in, conserving biodiversity.

3. To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity on a European and global scale.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended

It consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain.

This act aims to prevent loss of diversity of flora and fauna by making it illegal to intentionally damage wild plants and animals or their habitats.

The Act provides for the notification of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – areas of special scientific interest by reason of their flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features.

Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994 And The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/6) Joint Nature Conservation Committee

To transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (EC Habitats Directive) into national law.

Containing five Parts and four Schedules, the Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.

The amendment in 2009 requires appropriate assessment to be carried out for plans and programmes.

Working with the grain of nature: a biodiversity strategy for England (2011) Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

The Biodiversity Strategy for England sets this fundamental shift in train by ensuring that biodiversity considerations become embedded in all the main sectors of economic activity, public and private.

To make biodiversity a fundamental consideration in:

Agriculture: encouraging the management of farming and agricultural land so as to conserve and enhance biodiversity as part of the Government's Sustainable Food and Farming Strategy.

Water: aiming for a whole catchment approach to the wise, sustainable use of water and wetlands.

Woodland: managing and extending woodland so as to promote enhanced biodiversity and quality of life.

Marine and coastal management: so as to achieve the sustainable use and management of our coasts and seas using natural processes and the ecosystem-based approach.

Urban areas: where biodiversity needs to become a part of the development of policy on sustainable communities and urban green space and the built environment.

Biodiversity 2020: a Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services (August 2011)

This new, ambitious biodiversity strategy for England builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how we are implementing our international and EU commitments.

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p>
<p>It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea. It builds on the successful work that has gone before, but also seeks to deliver a real step change.</p>
<p>The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature (June 2011) HM Government</p>
<p>Aims to mainstream the value of nature across society by: facilitating greater local action to protect and improve nature; creating a green economy; strengthening the connections between people and nature; and showing leadership in the European Union and internationally, to protect and enhance natural assets globally This publication provides guidance on how to put the value of nature at the heart of decision-making.</p>
<p>Planning for a healthy environment – good practice guidance for green infrastructure and biodiversity; TCPA and Wildlife Trusts; (July 2012)</p>
<p>This provides guidance to local authorities to ensure local plans deliver a network of wildlife-rich places in their area. This publication provides guidance to local authorities on how green infrastructure and biodiversity can be protected and enhanced through the planning system.</p>
<p>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006</p>
<p>The Act will, among other measures, create a new integrated agency - Natural England– http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/ruraldelivery/natural-england.htm- to act as a powerful champion for the natural environment, and formally establish a Commission for Rural Communities which will be a strong national rural adviser, advocate and watchdog charged with ensuring that Government policies are making a real difference on the ground in tackling rural disadvantage. Objectives: Key elements of the Act included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of Natural England with the responsibility for enhancing biodiversity and landscape –in rural, urban and coastal areas –with promoting access and recreation; • Formal establishment of the Commission of Rural communities, which will act as an independent advocate/adviser for rural people; and • The act delivers the Government's commitment to curtail the inappropriate use of byways, by putting an end to claims for motor vehicle access on the basis of historic use by horse –drawn vehicles.
<p>Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</p>
<p>The Act will extend the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. It will create a new statutory right of access to open country and registered common land, modernise the rights of way system, give greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), provide better management arrangements for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), and strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation. The Act received Royal Assent on 30 November 2000. Emphasises the public's right of access to open country and common land, and gives additional protection to SSSIs. The Act imposes a duty on public bodies, to have regard to the conservation and enhancement of the AONBs in the County and also have regard to the conservation of biological diversity when discharging its functions.</p>
<p>Defra (2007) England Biodiversity Strategy Towards adaptation to climate change</p>
<p>DEFRA guidance for conserving biodiversity in a changing climate provides six guiding principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conserve existing biodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1a. Conserve Protected Areas and other high quality habitats • 1b. Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species 2. Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate 3. Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3a. Conserve and enhance local variation within sites and habitats

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3b. Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts <p>4. Establish ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation</p> <p>5. Make sound decisions based on analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5a. Thoroughly analyse causes of change • 5b. Respond to changing conservation priorities <p>6. Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice</p>
<p>Regional</p> <p>English Nature, Environment Agency, RSPB (1997). Action for Biodiversity in the South West – A Series of Habitat and Species Plans to Guide Delivery:</p> <p>Objective 1. Maintain the current extent and distribution of wood pasture and parkland (ongoing).</p> <p>Objective 2. Extend and improve knowledge of management options for existing sites and formulate methodologies for best management practice (by 2000).</p> <p>Objective 3. Ensure that the management of all surviving sites acknowledge the biological values associated with wood pasture and parkland, as well as the historical, cultural and agricultural values. (By 2010).</p> <p>Objective 4. Restore, where appropriate, the quality of wood pasture and parkland by ensuring long term recruitment, and linking and buffering within and to existing separate sites (50% by 2000).</p>
<p>South West Biodiversity Implementation Plan (Biodiversity South West, 2004)</p> <p>South West Biodiversity Implementation Plan: generic priorities.</p> <p>1. Maintain and enhance biodiversity by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sensitively managing existing habitats; • expanding and re-establishing links between fragmented sites; and • where appropriate, managing at a larger, functional scale (landscape, ecosystem or catchment). <p>2. Develop integrated sustainable land management practices that safeguard and enhance the region's biodiversity whilst also bringing benefits to society, the economy and environment.</p> <p>3. Increase awareness and understanding of the importance of biodiversity to the region's health, quality of life and economic productivity and develop wider support and active engagement.</p> <p>4. Understand and manage the dynamic processes of change (e.g. climate change) and develop long-term sustainable approaches within the region that focus on the quality, extent and diversity of habitats.</p>
<p>Local</p> <p>Bath and North East Somerset. Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Bath and North East Somerset. www.wildthingsbap.org.uk</p> <p>Wildthings is a partnership delivering local Biodiversity Action. This website provides information about Wildthings and the Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) for Bath and North East Somerset.</p> <p>There are seven key themes of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Species Action Plans and Habitat Action Plans exist in Bath and North East Somerset for a range of species and habitats.</p>
<p>Draft Core Strategy</p> <p>POLICY CP6 Environmental quality</p> <p>4. Nature Conservation</p>

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The quality, extent & robustness of protected sites and valued habitats will be enhanced, and networks of valued habitat will be restored or created, by measures which:

a: Improve the quality and/or increase the size of current sites and valued habitat.

b: Enhance connections between, or join up, sites and valued habitats.

c: Create new sites and valued habitats.

d: Reduce the pressures on wildlife by improving the wider environment

New Development will

- protect and enhance international, national and local sites and existing networks of valued habitats;
- facilitate migration and dispersal through the natural and built environment; and
- seek to reduce fragmentation of existing habitats.

The Council will promote the management, conservation, enhancement or restoration of environmental assets. Sustainable opportunities for improved access to and enjoyment of these assets will be promoted where it does not compromise the integrity of the asset.

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies:**Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA****Climate Change****International****Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is an amendment to the international treaty on climate change, assigning mandatory emission limitations for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to the signatory nations.

- To deliver the UK climate change programme;
- To address the causes and effects of climate change and to secure maximum benefit for communities;
- To achieve a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from local authority's operations especially energy sourcing and use, travel and transport, waste production and disposal and the purchasing of goods and services;
- To encourage all sectors in the local community to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to make public their commitment to action;
- To work with key providers to assess the potential effects of climate change and to identify ways in which to adapt;
- To provide opportunities for the development of renewable energy generation; and
- To monitor the progress against the actions needed and publish the results.

The Kyoto Protocol requires that greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by 12.5 per cent below base year levels over the 2008-12 period. This equates to annual emissions of 682.4 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e) on average over the period.

Excluding emissions trading: in 2011, emissions were provisionally estimated to be 549.3 MtCO₂e, which is 29.6 per cent below the baseline.

Including emissions trading: taking the effect of emissions trading into account increases the UK's reported emissions for 2011 to 574.3 MtCO₂e. This is 26.4 per cent below the baseline.

EU COM(97)599 final: White Paper 'Energy for the future: renewable source of energy' EC

- To set out Community Strategy and Action Plan to double the share of renewable energy from 6 to 12 % in Gross Inland Production by 2010;
- To encourage the increase of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) in each Member State as a means of increasing exploitation of the available potential for attaining CO₂ emission reduction, decreasing energy dependence, developing national industry and creating jobs;
- To establish Sub-targets in the various sectors;
- To preserve flexibility in view of Community enlargement; and
- To instigate a tri-annual review procedure.

Directive 2001/77/EC on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal electricity market

To increase the use of electricity produced from renewable energy sources - to form an important part of the package of measures needed to comply with the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and of any policy package to meet further commitments.

- To promote the improvement of the energy performance of buildings within the Community, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost-effectiveness considering:
 - The general framework for a methodology of calculation of the integrated energy performance of buildings;
 - The application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of new buildings;
 - The application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of large existing buildings that are subject to major renovation;
- Energy certification of buildings; and

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular inspection of boilers and of air-conditioning systems in buildings and in addition an assessment of the heating installation in which the boilers are more than 15 years old.
<p>Renewable Energy Directive (2001/77/EC):</p> <p>The Directive follows up the 1997 White Paper on renewable energy sources which set a target of 12% of gross inland energy consumption from renewables for the EU-15 by 2010, of which electricity would represent 22.1%. With the 2004 enlargement, the EU's overall objective became 21%. The Directive also constitutes an essential part of the package of measures needed to comply with the commitments made by the EU under the Kyoto Protocol on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Aims to promote substantial increase in the proportion of electricity generated from renewable energy sources in the EU to 22.1% with overall EU renewable energy sources target of 12% by 2010</p>
<p>National</p>
<p>UK Climate Change Act (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2008)</p> <p>The UK Government is committed to addressing both the causes and consequences of climate change. The Act created a new approach to managing and responding to climate change in the UK through: setting ambitious targets, assuming powers to help achieve them, strengthening the institutional framework, enhancing the UK's ability to adapt to the impact of climate change and establishing clear and regular accountability to the UK, Parliament and devolved legislatures.</p> <p>The Climate Change Act has set legally binding targets to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by at least 26% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. In the UK 2009 budget, the 2020 target was revised and therefore the current legally binding target is to achieve a carbon emissions reduction of 34% by 2020. This target is likely to be reviewed in forthcoming budgets.</p>
<p>Energy White Paper DTI 2003</p> <p>'Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy' defines a long-term strategic vision for energy policy combining our environmental, security of supply, competitiveness and social goals. It builds on the Performance and Innovation Unit's Energy Review, published in February 2002, and on other reports which have looked at major areas of energy policy.</p> <p>The government's goals for energy policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to put ourselves on a path to cut the UK's carbon dioxide emissions - the main contributor to global warming - by some 60% by about 2050, as recommended by the RCEP, with real progress by 2020; to maintain the reliability of energy supplies; to promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond, helping to raise the rate of sustainable economic growth and to improve our productivity; and to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated. <p>Kyoto Protocol commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2008-12. Renewable should supply 10% of UK electricity in 2010.</p>
<p>Strong and prosperous communities, The Local Government White Paper DCLG Oct 2006</p> <p>The aim of this White Paper is to give local people and local communities more influence and power to improve their lives. It is about creating strong, prosperous communities and delivering better public services through a rebalancing of the relationship between central government, local government and local people. It states that Local authorities already have the ability, via the wellbeing power contained in the 2000 Local Government Act, to work together and with other agencies to tackle climate change. Some are making good use of this, for instance by setting up Energy Services Companies (ESCOs), and we particularly encourage partners in our major cities to take up the challenge locally. DEFRA will explore the best way of encouraging the establishment of ESCOs with the core cities.</p>

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<p>Climate Change The UK Programme 2006 DEFRA March 2006</p> <p>This Climate Change Programme sets out our policies and priorities for action in the UK and internationally. In the public sector and local government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduce a package of measures to drive additional action for local authorities to include an appropriate focus on action on climate change; • set up a new revolving loan fund of £20m for the whole of the public sector, to finance investment in energy efficiency; and • introduce new strategic targets for the central government estate in summer 2006.
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</p> <p>The NPPF states that local planning authorities should work with other authorities and providers to assess the quality and capacity of infrastructure for [<i>inter alia</i>] water supply, wastewater and its treatment, flood risk and coastal change management.</p> <p>The NPPF states that, to support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should: plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and, when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards.</p>
<p>Future Water Strategy: The Government's Water Strategy for England, DEFRA (2008)</p> <p>Future Water sets out how we want the water sector to look by 2030, and some of the steps we will need to take to get there. It is a vision where rivers, canals, lakes and seas have improved for people and wildlife, with benefits for angling, boating and other recreational activities, and where we continue to provide excellent quality drinking water. It is a vision of a sector that values and protects its water resources; that delivers water to customers through fair, affordable and cost-reflective charges; where flood risk is addressed with markedly greater understanding and use of good surface water management; and where the water industry has cut its greenhouse gas emissions. The vision shows a sector that is resilient to climate change, with its likelihood of more frequent droughts as well as floods, and to population growth, with forward planning fully in tune with these adaptation challenges.</p> <p>In short, our vision is for sustainable delivery of secure water supplies and an improved and protected water environment.</p> <p>The vision for water policy and management is one where, by 2030 at the latest, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps; • sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water; • ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and costreflective water charges; • cut greenhouse gas emissions; and • embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users.
<p>Planning for Climate Change – guidance for local authorities: Planning and Climate Change Coalition (April 2012)</p> <p>Planning for Climate Change is a resource for local communities across the East Midlands (and beyond) to use to enable them to make informed decisions and have meaningful input into planning consultations, especially in relation to local, regional and national renewable energy, low carbon and adaptation agendas</p> <p>Local development plans can support the move to a low-carbon economy and secure low-carbon living in a changing climate.</p> <p>Local planning authorities are advised to design their policies to support and not unreasonably restrict renewable and low carbon energy developments.</p> <p>Development management should not prevent, delay or inhibit proposals for renewable and low carbon energy, and associated infrastructure.</p>
<p>Making space for water: Taking forward a government Strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England DEFRA (March 2005)</p> <p>The Government confirms the strategic direction of travel set out in the document Making space for water published on 29 July 2004. In the light of positive reactions from stakeholders to that document, the Government will, over the 20-year lifetime of the new strategy, implement a more holistic approach to managing flood and coastal</p>

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <p>erosion risks in England. The approach will involve taking account of all sources of flooding, embedding flood and coastal risk management across a range of Government policies, and reflecting other relevant Government policies in the policies and operations of flood and coastal erosion risk management.</p> <p>The aim will be to manage risks by employing an integrated portfolio of approaches which reflect both national and local priorities, so as to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce the threat to people and their property; and • deliver the greatest environmental, social and economic benefit, consistent with the Government's sustainable development principles.
<p>DETR (2000) Building a Better Quality of Life: A Strategy for More Sustainable Construction</p> <p>This Strategy aims to provide a catalyst for change in construction across the United Kingdom. It identifies priority areas for action, and suggests indicators and targets to measure progress.</p> <p>The objectives of this Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote awareness and understanding of sustainable construction; • to set out how the Government expects the construction industry to contribute to sustainable development; • to show how Government policies will help to bring about change; and • to stimulate action by individual businesses to set, and monitor their progress towards, targets for more sustainable construction which require continuous improvement. <p>This Strategy builds on the framework and priorities for sustainable development set out in A better quality of life. Amongst those priorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more investment in people and equipment for a competitive economy; • achieving higher growth whilst reducing pollution and use of resources; • sharing the benefits of growth more widely and more fairly; • improving our towns and cities and protecting the quality of the countryside; and • contributing to sustainable development internationally.
<p>Home Energy Conservation Act 1995</p> <p>An Act to make provision for the drawing up of local energy conservation reports in relation to residential accommodation; to give the Secretary of State functions in connection therewith; and for related purposes.</p> <p>To increase the energy efficiency of housing in all sectors</p>
<p>Code for Sustainable Homes A step-change in sustainable home building practice, DCLG (Dec 2006)</p> <p>The Code for Sustainable Homes has been developed to enable a step change in sustainable building practice for new homes. It has been prepared by the Government in close working consultation with the Building Research Establishment (BRE) and Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA), and through consultation with a Senior Steering Group consisting of Government, industry and NGO representatives.</p> <p>The Code is intended as a single national standard to guide industry in the design and construction of sustainable homes. It is a means of driving continuous improvement, greater innovation and exemplary achievement in sustainable home building.</p> <p>The Code will complement the system of Energy Performance Certificates which is being introduced in June 2007 under the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD). The EPBD will require that all new homes (and in due course other homes, when they are sold or leased) have an Energy Performance Certificate providing key information about the energy efficiency / carbon performance of the home. Energy assessment under the Code will use the same calculation methodology therefore avoiding the need for duplication.</p>

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Energy efficiency: The Government's Plan for Action (following the Energy White Paper, Our Energy Future - Towards a Low Carbon Economy April 2004)

Energy efficiency has been improving steadily over recent years, but the technical potential to further reduce energy use, using tried and tested technologies, is well established. Across the economy as a whole it is estimated that we could reduce energy use by around 30%. The White Paper identified potential savings of around 10 million tonnes of carbon by 2010, and a similar quantity by 2020. This Plan explains how we will deliver these savings, with a particular focus on the period from now to 2010.

- To reduce carbon emissions using energy as efficiently as possible and the most cost-effective way to manage energy demand;
- To ensure security of supply by reducing demand on the gas and electricity distribution networks and using energy efficiency that helps to deliver improved resilience and to reduce dependence on imported energy supplies;
- To maintain competitiveness by helping consumers to reduce their energy bills, energy efficiency and UK businesses to be more productive and competitive; and
- To tackle fuel poverty improving the energy standards of homes and reducing spending on fuel.

The Government has a statutory aim (as required by the Sustainable Energy Act 2003), to save 3.5 million tonnes of carbon from residential properties in England through energy efficiency measures by 2010. A further target was set in the Housing Act 2004, which requires the Secretary of State to take reasonable steps to improve residential energy efficiency by at least 20 per cent by 2010 from a year 2000 baseline.

Part L of the Building Regulations ODPM 2010

Part L of the Building Regulations deals with energy efficiency. A significant general change from the existing regulations is the recognition of the need to improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings. Thus, in future, changes such as replacing glazing and upgrading of boilers will have to meet the same requirements as for new buildings. Allowances will be made for dwellings that have efficient gas or oil fired heating systems installed. Electric, solid fuel and inefficient gas or oil boilers will require higher levels of insulation.

- A requirement for higher standards of envelope insulation for dwellings with electric or poor efficiency gas and oil heating systems.
- The inclusion of a "Carbon Index" method in place of the SAP energy rating (but based on the SAP calculation) as an alternative method of demonstrating compliance.
- A requirement for increased standards of detail design and site workmanship to improve real building performance and to reduce the incidence of gaps in the insulation, thermal bridging and poor air-tightness.

Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning English Nature, Environment Agency, environment Agency, Countryside Agency and English Heritage 2005

This guidance is produced by the Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature and the Environment Agency (the agencies) to help planning authorities and regional planning bodies in preparing plans and strategies under the new planning system. It will also be used by the agencies' own staff. It is intended to supplement guidance issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

- Contact the agencies (see Supplementary File 15) to help to scope the environmental and rural issues in the plan and the evidence base needed to address them.
- Discuss with English Heritage, English Nature and the Environment Agency the use and handling of data.
- Start to identify areas that are distinct, because of their ability to accommodate change, or their sensitivity to change depending on their characteristics. Identify the changes these areas are experiencing or may be vulnerable to, or the nature and scale.
- Planning authorities should develop their visions for the 'future picture' so that the kind of environment and quality of life that they aspire to achieve in the future is clearly understood and sufficiently described to provide a steer for the planning system as a whole.
- The vision should clearly reflect the statutory duty to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

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Leading the way: how local authorities can meet the challenge of climate change Local Government Association 2005

Political leaders are united about the urgency and importance of climate change. Local government has a key role to play in this agenda. We offer a vision of 'Any town 2025', a sustainable energy future, adapted to the effects of climate change; and set out the steps, building on existing good practice, which local government can take to achieve it. Working towards this future can lead to multiple benefits for local authorities and their communities: improvements in health, community cohesion, social inclusion and quality of life. It does not rely on any technological breakthroughs.

Stern Review Report on the Economics of Climate Change Treasury 2007

This independent Review was commissioned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, reporting to both the Chancellor and to the Prime Minister, as a contribution to assessing the evidence and building understanding of the economics of climate change.

The Review first examines the evidence on the economic impacts of climate change itself, and explores the economics of stabilising greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The second half of the Review considers the complex policy challenges involved in managing the transition to a low-carbon economy and in ensuring that societies can adapt to the consequences of climate change that can no longer be avoided.

DEFRA (2007) England Biodiversity Strategy Towards adaptation to climate change

DEFRA guidance for conserving biodiversity in a changing climate provides six guiding principles:

1. Conserve existing biodiversity;
 - 1a. Conserve Protected Areas and other high quality habitats; and
 - 1b. Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species.
2. Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate;
3. Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes;
 - 3a. Conserve and enhance local variation within sites and habitats; and
 - 3b. Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts.
4. Establish ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation;
5. Make sound decisions based on analysis;
 - 5a. Thoroughly analyse causes of change; and
 - 5b. Respond to changing conservation priorities.
6. Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice.

Regional

The South West Climate Change Action Plan (2009)

The South West Climate Change Action Plan draws together issues from across the region to ensure that there is a shared vision on tackling climate change, access to a common evidence base and a jointly agreed set of priorities for taking the issues forward. The Action Plan sets out a clear programme of regionally agreed priority actions to address both mitigation and adaptation activity. The main areas of mitigation activity within the SWCCAP include tackling emissions from existing housing, business and public sector operations, transport, new build, energy generation, and land management. Adaptation activity covers: the region's strategic response to climate change; awareness raising; land and marine management; and adapting to flood risk.

The priorities for action in the South West are:

- Carbon emissions from existing housing stock;
- Carbon emissions from energy use in existing business, commerce and public sector operations;

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- Transport emissions;
- Low carbon technology sector and economic opportunities;
- Carbon emissions from new build; and
- Natural carbon sinks.

Local**Bath & North East Somerset Environmental Sustainability Strategic Framework 2006**

This Strategic Framework is designed to provide a simple description of the key actions that the Council needs to be taking, over time, in the four major areas outlined above, where energy is used. It is, in a nutshell, the framework for the development of a Council-wide sustainability action plan, with the need to act on climate change at its heart.

The Strategic Framework has two parts: internal and external. Internal covers the basic action the Council needs to take to get its own house in order. External covers action that will enable wider action on climate in the district, by our partners and others in the community.

In signing the Nottingham Declaration, the Council has made a commitment to contributing towards the delivery of the UK climate change programme. This has a long-term target of reducing CO2 emissions by 60% by 2050 over 1990 levels with real progress by 2020, and, until recently, had a short-term target of a 20% reduction by 2010.

The Council and the wider LSP has a ready-made target of a minimum 10% cut over current levels by 2009.

The relevant recommendations accepted by the Council:

- R7. That a target is embedded within the LDF requiring that at least 15% of energy in new developments should come from a renewable source (3.2.5);
- R8. That a strong sustainable construction policy is embedded in the LDF (3.2.6); and
- R9. That all applicants and developers should be required to submit information detailing the level of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures in their applications (3.5.6).

Bath & North East Somerset Position Statement on Environmental Sustainability 2006

The community Strategy (2004) has, as one of its five cross-cutting themes, a shared ambition to 'BE Sustainable' by 'Taking responsibility for our environment and natural resources now and over the long term'.

Vision:

To become an authority that is moving towards a strong and diverse low carbon economy, cutting carbon emissions through avoiding unnecessary energy consumption, increasing energy efficiency and switching to sustainable sources of energy, bringing our environmental footprint within natural limits and delivering improvements in quality of life, health and community wellbeing as a result.

Strategic Flood Risk Assessments for Bath, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton and Radstock

A Level 1 assessment has been prepared for the District. Due to flood risks in these areas, Level 2 detailed assessments have been prepared for the following:

- Bath;
- Keynsham; and
- Midsomer Norton & Radstock.

The results of the SFRA provide valuable information for the SA baseline, particularly in the form of maps. This information has been and will continue to be used to inform the baseline and assessments of options.

- Bath -at risk of flooding from rivers, sewers, surface water, artificial sources and to a lesser degree from groundwater (springs).
- Keynsham -at risk of flooding from rivers (which may be tidally influenced), surface water, sewers and artificial sources.

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midsomer Norton/Radstock -at risk of flooding from rivers, surface water and sewers. Note: Midsomer Norton benefits from a flood alleviation scheme during a 1% AEP river flood event. • Chew Magna and downstream communities -at risk of flooding from rivers, surface water and artificial sources.
<p>Flood Risk Management Strategy - Scoping Report (Capita Symonds, May 2009)</p> <p>This study has pulled together existing information from flood defence studies and identified conclusions and recommendations on how to proceed with the main stage of the Flood Risk Management Strategy.</p>
<p>Bath & North East Somerset Carbon Management Plan (B&NES, 2009)</p> <p>Bath & North East Somerset Council's carbon emissions in the 2007/08 baseline year were 26,000 tonnes. The Carbon Management Plan sets a target to reduce CO2 emissions from Council operations by 30% by April 2014 from 2007/08 levels.</p> <p>The Carbon Management Programme focuses on the emissions that are under the direct control of the council, or fall within the council's responsibility for government reporting mechanisms under National Indicator (NI) 185.</p> <p>Sources of carbon emissions which are monitored to provide information for this indicator fall into two categories, stationary sources and transport:</p> <p><i>1. Stationary Sources/Buildings</i></p> <p>Council offices, libraries, Heritage estate, schools, elderly people homes, youth centres, car parks, WC's, and depots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings used for outsourced council functions, including schools, Aquaterra leisure centres, Mouchel business services; and • Street lighting energy consumption. <p><i>2. Transport</i></p> <p>Council owned fleet fuel use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet fuel use for outsourced council functions; • Home to school transport; and • Business travel including mileage, public transport and air travel.
<p>Green Infrastructure Strategy (Nov 2012)</p> <p>It provides a framework for the Council and partners across a diverse sector of skills and specialisms concerned with social, economic and environmental planning and land use management.</p> <p>It covers a wide range of agendas and those elements relating to planning policy and management will be embedded in the Local Plan including through the Placemaking Plan. Other elements will achieve weight through inclusion in related strategies and partner policies and work streams.</p> <p>The overarching vision for the district is complemented by a more detailed picture of the sort of change that we hope to achieve.</p> <p>"By 2026 the Council and its partners will have worked with the community to achieve a well-used, managed, connected and expanding network of green infrastructure which provides a wealth of benefits for people, place and nature".</p>
<p>Bath Flood Risk Management Technical; Note Black & Veatch (B&V) (Jan and Nov 2013)</p> <p>Options to provide compensatory flood storage upstream of Bath have been considered by B&NES Flood Risk Management Strategy as a means of mitigating the increase in flood risk. The modelling prepared by B&V has confirmed that the principal impact of raising developments is a loss of flow conveyance, rather than a loss of flood storage, therefore upstream storage is no longer being considered as part of any flood mitigation measures for these development sites in the Enterprise Area. B&V Technical Notes contains detailed locations for the mitigation measures.</p>

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Cultural Heritage, Archaeology and Landscape

International

Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised)(Valetta Convention 2000)

The Convention defines the archaeological heritage very broadly (Article 1). It deals with the inventorying and protection of sites and areas, the mandatory reporting of chance finds (all in Article 2) and the control of illicit trade in antiquities (Articles 10 and 11). It promotes high standards for all archaeological work, which should be authorised and should be carried out by suitably qualified people (Article 3). It recommends the creation of archaeological reserves, and requires the conservation of excavated sites and the safe-keeping of finds (Article 4). It follows closely current British practice (as set out in PPG15 and PPG16 in England and comparable documents in other parts of the UK) for the protection and recording of archaeology during development (Article 5) and contains provisions for the funding for development-led archaeology (again following closely current British practice) and for research (Article 6). Articles 7 and 8 cover the collection and dissemination of information while Article 9 is about the promotion of public awareness and access. Article 12 deals with mutual technical and scientific assistance internationally.

- to institute, by appropriate means, a legal system to protect the archaeological heritage, including the maintenance of an inventory and the designation of protected monuments and areas;
- to establish archaeological reserves, even without any visible remains on the ground or under water, for the preservation of material evidence to be studied by next generations;
- to institute the mandatory reporting to the competent authorities by finders of chance discoveries of elements of the archaeological heritage and making them available for examination;
- to apply procedures for the authorisation and supervision of excavation and other archaeological activities in such a way as:
 - to prevent any illicit excavation or removal of elements of the archaeological heritage; and
 - to ensure that archaeological excavations and prospecting are undertaken in a scientific manner;
- to ensure that excavation and other potentially destructive techniques are carried out only by qualified and authorised persons;
- to submit for prior authorisation, whenever foreseen by domestic law, the use of metal detectors and other detection equipment;
- to implement measures for the physical protection of the archaeological heritage, making provision:
 - for the acquisition or protection, by appropriate means, by the authorities of areas intended to constitute archaeological reserves;
 - for the conservation and maintenance of the archaeological heritage, preferably *in situ*; and
 - for appropriate storage places for archaeological remains which have been removed from their original location.

European Spatial Development Perspective 1999

The European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) is a document approved by the Informal Council of Ministers of Spatial Planning of European Commission in Potsdam in 1999. It is a legally non-binding document forming a policy framework with 60 policy options for all tiers of administration with a planning responsibility. The strategic aim is to achieve a balanced and sustainable spatial development strategy.

- Development of a polycentric and balanced urban system, and strengthening of the partnership between urban and rural areas, so as to create a new urban-rural relationship.
- Promotion of integrated transport and communication concepts, which support the polycentric development of the EU territory, so that there is gradual progress towards parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge.
- Wise management of the natural and cultural heritage, which will help conserve regional identities and cultural diversity in the face of globalisation.

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<p>UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972 http://www.getty.edu</p> <p>The World Heritage Convention was adopted in 1972 by the General Conference of UNESCO. It promotes an international perspective on cultural heritage by inviting member states to submit an inventory of properties forming its national cultural and natural heritage to be included in a list of World Heritage sites.</p>
<p>European Landscape Convention United Nation 2006</p> <p>A key factor in individual and social well-being and people's quality of life, the landscape contributes to human development and serves to strengthen the European identity. It plays an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields and is a valuable resource conducive to economic activity, notably tourism. Developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques and in regional planning, town planning, transport, infrastructure, tourism and recreation and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy have in many cases led to the destruction of landscapes, or rendered them featureless. While every citizen must certainly play a part in preserving the quality of the landscape, public authorities have a duty to define the general framework for ensuring this quality. The Convention thus considers that landscape protection, management and planning entail "<i>rights and responsibilities for everyone</i>" and establishes the general legal principles which should serve as a basis for adopting national landscape policies and establishing international co-operation in such matters.</p>
<p>National</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</p> <p>The NPPF aims to protect and enhance valued landscapes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty.
<p>Heritage Protection for the 21st Century White Paper, Department for culture, media and sport (March 2007)</p> <p>The paper sets out a vision of a unified and simpler heritage protection system, which will have more opportunities for public involvement and community engagement. The proposed system will be more open, accountable and transparent. It will offer all those with an interest in the historic environment a clearer record of what is protected and why; it will enable people who own or manage historic buildings and sites to have a better understanding of what features are important; it will streamline the consent procedures and create a more consultative and collaborative protection system.</p> <p>The proposals in this White Paper reflect the importance of the heritage protection system in preserving our heritage for people to enjoy now and in the future. They are based around three core principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a unified approach to the historic environment; • Maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and • Supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system.
<p>The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</p> <p>The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. The Act aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a new statutory right of access to open country and registered common land. Modernise the rights of way system. • Give greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). • Provide better management arrangements for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). • Strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation.

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<p>The protection of the countryside and SSSIs should be incorporated into the SEA/SA objectives The Core Strategy should include policies to promote conservation and protect areas of interest.</p>
<p>Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning (English Heritage <i>et al</i> 2005)</p>
<p>Guidance to help planning authorities and regional planning bodies in preparing plans and strategies under the new planning system. Sets out how planning authorities might achieve high standards of environmental quality in spatial planning</p>
<p>Planning (Listed building and Conservation Areas ACT 1990)</p>
<p>Buildings which are listed or which lie within a conservation area are protected by law. This does not mean that you can never alter or demolish one, but carrying out relevant work without the appropriate consent is a criminal offence. Unfortunately many building contractors and even some architects who do not specialise in historic building work are unaware of the alterations which require consent, leaving them and their clients liable to criminal prosecution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All works affecting a scheduled monument or the ground surrounding it require scheduled monument consent. • The demolition or alteration of a listed building and historic structures within its grounds requires listed building consent. • The demolition of an unlisted building in a conservation area requires conservation area consent. • Alterations to the exterior of all buildings may also require planning permission and an application may be needed for some works to houses in conservation areas and other buildings affected by an 'Article 4 direction' which otherwise would not require one.
<p>The Historic Environment; A Force for Our Future Department for Culture, Media and Sport 2001</p>
<p>This statement sets out the intention of the Government to protect the historic environment recognising its major contribution to the economy in rural and deprived communities as well as in traditional economic centres. It also states the need for the development of new policies to further realise economic and educational potential.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage; and • The historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations. <p>Targets:</p> <p>No specific targets.</p>
<p>Protecting our historic environment: making the system work better, Department for Culture, Media and Sport (2001)</p>
<p>This consultation strategy sets out some possible changes to improve the way the historic environment is protected. The review identifies which areas of the current system require change and invites comments from stakeholders and the public on how these changes could be achieved. The Government is considering the issue of guidance to make clear what plans district authorities will be expected to develop for the protection and enhancement as part of their LDF and sustainability planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New unified register, bringing together the systems of listed buildings, scheduled monuments, and registered parks, gardens and battlefields. • Unifying the listed building and scheduled monument consent regimes. • Introduction of optional heritage partnership agreements between the owners of a site, local authorities and English Heritage to be employed as alternative proactive management regimes.
<p>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</p>
<p>The Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters; to provide for the recovery of grants under section 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 1972 or under section 4 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 in certain circumstances; and to provide for grants by the Secretary of State to the Architectural Heritage Fund.</p>

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies:**Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA****The Countryside in and Around Towns – a vision for connecting town and country in pursuit of sustainable development Countryside Agency 2005**

In short, The Vision is for a multi-functional countryside in and around towns, comprising landscapes that are readily accessible, contribute to the health, wealth and wellbeing of urban and rural communities, underpin more sustainable living and strengthen biodiversity in both town and country. Recognising that our towns and cities continue to grow, the pressure that urban life places on the environment is one of the defining challenges of our age.

To be successfully applied the approach needs to be an integral part of the planning and development process from the outset rather than introduced at a later stage.

At the heart of this challenge is the need to ensure a high quality of life for all; while at the same time reducing our collective impact on the resources we share. The countryside in and around towns can be made readily accessible to most people; contribute to the health, wealth and wellbeing of urban and rural communities; underpin more sustainable living; strengthen biodiversity in both town and country.

Four Steps to Applying the Vision:

1. Regional coalitions
2. Regional stock takes
3. Recognition in strategies and plans
4. Lead exemplars

Planning Principles for Landscape, Access and Recreation Planning Position Statement –Countryside Agency 2006

The Countryside Agency (Landscape, Access and Recreation Division) provides advice to regional assemblies, local planning authorities and other bodies working at the regional and sub-regional level on planning activities relating to landscape, access and recreational issues. We have particular interests relating to National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coasts.

This Position Statement sets out the views of LAR on incorporating landscape, access and recreational planning issues in a Local Development Framework.

LAR planning principles

LAR supports an integrated policy approach that delivers sustainable environmental, social and economic outcomes. LAR has established a set of six principles which focuses its activity relevant to planning, as detailed in “Planning Principles for Landscape, Access and Recreation”. All six have relevance to LDF:

- Principle 1 sets out the need for Plans to ensure that development is ‘good enough to approve’.
- Principle 2 promotes the idea of achieving net gain through integrating social, economic and environmental policy.
- Principle 3 emphasises the need to protect and enhance the character of all landscapes.
- Principle 4 relates to the location and nature of development in terms of seeking enhancement of environmental quality and an accessible countryside.
- Principle 5 urges Plan makers to use positive objectives as a basis of planning, rather than ‘predict and provide’.
- Principle 6 supports giving a positive role to communities and community planning.

Sustainable communities: Building for the Future ODPM 2003

See the General Section

Regional**A Strategy for the Historic Environment in the South West. English Heritage (2004)**

The strategy aims to develop a regional perspective that reflects the special character, variety and contribution of the historic environment within the South West; Support rural renaissance initiatives to help rural communities, supporting the development and implementation of sustainable projects

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<p>English Heritage in the South West 2006-2008. English Heritage (undated)</p> <p>Sets out how the organisation will provide its services in the South West over the period 2006–08. Develop a sustainable response to climate change, with other agencies, especially focusing on the potential impact on the historic environment and the coast. Develop a suite of Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment.</p>
<p>Local</p>
<p>Bath and North East Somerset; City of Bath World Heritage Site Management Plan (2003-2009)</p> <p>The Management Plan aims to provide a framework to conserve the cultural heritage assets of the World Heritage Site of Bath. This wide remit includes protection and enhancement of the architectural, archaeological, landscape and natural assets and their urban and landscape settings, improving understanding of the Site, its interpretation and use as an educational resource, and supporting the local community in its cultural, social and economic vitality.</p> <p>Main Aims of the Plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainable management of the World Heritage Site; • Ensure that the unique qualities and outstanding universal values of the World Heritage Site are understood and are sustained in the future; • Sustain the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage Site whilst maintaining and promoting Bath as a living and working city which benefits from the status of the World Heritage Site; • Improve physical access and interpretation, encouraging all people to enjoy and understand the World Heritage Site; and • Improve public awareness of and interest and involvement in the heritage of Bath, achieving a common local, national and international ownership of World Heritage Site management.
<p>Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan The Cotswolds AONB Partnership</p> <p>The management Plan is a statutory document and relates specifically to the designated areas of the Cotswolds AONB. It also covers any developments outside the area which may impact upon its conservation and enhancement</p> <p>The vision is that the very special nature of the Cotswolds will be conserved to benefit future generations.</p>
<p>Mendip Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan</p> <p>The management Plan is a statutory document and relates specifically to the designated areas of the Mendip Hills AONB. It also covers any developments outside the area which may impact upon its conservation and enhancement.</p> <p>The Plan sets out what the special qualities of the Mendip Hills AONB are in the Statement of Significance. It has considered current issues and future trends to devise objectives to address these in order to retain and enhance the special qualities in order to achieve the Vision for the Mendip Hills AONB.</p>
<p>Archaeology in Bath and North East Somerset Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (2004)</p> <p>The purpose of this draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is to provide more detailed information and guidance on archaeology and planning. Its principal purpose when adopted is to supplement the policies of the existing and emerging Development Plan. It also clarifies development control procedures and Planning Policy Guidance notes (Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning, DoE 1990 & Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment, DoE/DNH 1994) issued by Government. It will also be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications relating to the historic environment.</p> <p>Archaeology exists throughout the District in all locations. It comprises buried archaeological remains, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens, the historic landscape including hedgerows and other land boundaries, buildings of historical significance and towns and villages and industrial features. Not all threats to, and opportunities for, the historic landscape relating to land use change can be influenced through the planning system. This guidance explains the significance of archaeology</p>

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and the historic environment. It also examines the processes and procedures necessary to ensure that a sustainable approach to management of the historic environment is adopted.

Archaeology in the City of Bath Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

The purpose of this Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is to provide more detailed information and guidance on archaeology and planning in Bath. Its principal purpose when adopted, is to supplement the archaeological policies of the existing and emerging Local Plan. It also clarifies development control procedures and Planning Policy Guidance notes (PPG 15 & 16) issued by Government. Upon adoption it will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications relating to the historic environment in Bath.

The UAD, established in 1997, contains detailed information on 90 monuments and around 700 archaeological investigations, surveys and historical interpretations within the City of Bath. This information is stored in a Microsoft Access database which forms part of the Bath and North East Somerset SMR.

The archaeology of Bath has been ascribed to 36 character zones, based on the state of existing, sometimes limited knowledge. The detail of these zones, including an assessment of character, threats and opportunities, and research potential, will be contained in the forthcoming Bath Urban Archaeological Strategy.

A total of 1.4 hectares or 13% of the area enclosed by the old city walls (Character Zone 1) are protected as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM's) under the 'Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979'. There are 13 separate scheduled elements within Zone 1, and 2 elements outside this zone, each of which is described below.

Green Space Strategy B&NES March 2007

This document sets out the green space strategy for B&NES. It brings together a number of pieces of research carried out previously and analyses the current provision of green space based on their findings.

Its focus is on all publicly accessible green space, regardless of owner or manager.

The Strategy looks at all freely accessible green space, regardless of owner or manager, and divides it into 3 land types. These land types are formal green spaces (parks, gardens, recreation grounds and open spaces), natural green spaces (woodland, natural and semi natural areas) and allotments. A separate strategy is also being developed for built sports facilities.

The main outcome from the work has been the development of local standards for the quantity, distribution and quality of green space along with a comprehensive action plan to address all of the major issues that arose during the strategy development process.

The local standards will be used in two main ways in the future. Firstly to determine the levels of green space provision that should be made in all future planning applications. This provision could be on or off- site, depending on the needs of the particular area. The Green Space Strategy provides further guidance on the operation of Policies in the Local Plan on the provision of recreational open space. Policy SR.3 in the Local Plan sets a standard for children's play space and for outdoor sports facilities but not for other recreational uses. The Green Space Strategy takes a different approach and sets a combined standard for formal recreational open space provision. It will therefore be a material consideration in relation to the standards for children's play space and for outdoor sports facilities and it provides more specific guidance on the standard of provision of other recreational uses.

Secondly, the local standards will be used to identify where there is a deficiency in existing quantity, distribution or quality of green space. This will help to determine where new provision is needed and will help support funding bids.

Bath City-wide Character Appraisal Supplementary Planning Document 2005

This document presents the results of the Bath city-wide character appraisal which was carried out in 2004 and 2005. This has been prepared to assist residents, businesses, developers, agents, amenity societies, planners, decision makers, visitors and the local community in understanding the character of the city, its setting and its

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component parts. It also provides the context for more detailed assessments which will be needed to inform specific proposals and for studies such as the Bath conservation area character appraisal which is planned to be carried out following this study.

The Bath city-wide character appraisal reviews:

- The historical development of Bath;
- Key elements that contribute to Bath's character; and
- Variations across the area of the city and its immediate environs and provides a summary of the issues that affect Bath's character.

The aims and objectives of the Bath city-wide character appraisal are to:

- Identify character; and
- Inform decisions.

Keynsham Conservation Area Character Assessment March 2000

Keynsham Conservation Area was designated on July 17th 1997 by the Planning, Transportation and Environment Committee of Bath and North East Somerset Council. The purpose of this report is to update the adopted preliminary Conservation Area Statement, and to provide a full and comprehensive assessment of the Conservation Area. The key objective is to identify the 'special character of the area'.

Claverton Conservation Area Character Appraisal; Bath and North East Somerset (Jan 2007)

Claverton was recognised as being of special architectural and historic interest and was designated a Conservation Area in November 1981.

The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Freshford and Sharpstone Conservation Area Character Appraisal; Bath and North East Somerset (Jan 2007)

The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

To avoid the danger of development encroaching on the character of the area, applications must be carefully assessed and be sympathetic to the locality, inappropriate proposals will be refused.

Midsomer Norton and Welton Conservation Area Character Appraisal Supplementary Planning Guidance

This Conservation area character appraisal summarises the architectural and historic interest of Midsomer Norton and Welton in two broad sections:

- Character summaries of Midsomer Norton and Welton followed by character summaries for each area; and
- An historical timeline for Midsomer Norton and Welton with a comparative national timeline.

No key objectives set, however, the document subdivides the area into areas of similarity. The implication for developers is to keep residential development and alterations in keeping with the surrounding area, unsuitable or inappropriate proposals will not be allowed.

Paulton conservation area character appraisal Supplementary Planning Guidance (2003)

Conservation area designation helps to protect an area's special architectural or historic interest by providing:

- The basis for policies designed to preserve or enhance all aspects of the character or appearance of an area that define its special architectural or historic interest ;
- Control over the demolition of unlisted buildings and works to trees within a conservation area;
- Stricter planning controls within a conservation area; and
- Introducing a statutory requirement for the local planning authority to consider the impact of a proposed development upon the character or appearance of a conservation area.

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<p>Chew Magna Conservation Area Character Appraisal Supplementary Planning Guidance (2003)</p> <p>The Chew Magna conservation area character appraisal as Supplementary Planning Guidance is a material consideration in planning decisions affecting Chew Magna. This character appraisal carries considerable weight in decision making, having been subject to scrutiny and amendment through public consultation. Chew Magna has 50 buildings or structures in the 1986 List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest including 1 Grade I, 4 Grade II*, and 45 Grade II listed buildings or structures.</p> <p>Key negative issues identified within the SPG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic – needs addressing; • Modern designed houses – detract from the area; • Boundary walls and pavements need to be preserved; and • Minor repair work needed to preserve character.
<p>Pensford Conservation Area Appraisal (2008)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Pensford was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1988. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Radstock Conservation Area Appraisal (1999)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Wellow was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1999. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Wellow Conservation Area Appraisal (2007)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Wellow was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1983. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Woollard Conservation Area Appraisal (2008)</p> <p>The special architectural and historic interest of Woollard was recognised by its designation as a Conservation Area in 1990. The Council has a duty to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Conservation Areas in exercising its planning powers, and to periodically reappraise the boundaries. This appraisal will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Identifies elements which contribute toward the character of the area and those that detract from it. This provides a base upon which to develop proposals for preservation and enhancement.</p>
<p>Rural Landscapes of Bath & North East Somerset: A Landscape Character Assessment SPG (2003)</p> <p>This document identifies and describes the component features and characteristics of the landscape within Bath and North East Somerset. This has been done through a landscape character assessment which is the process of dividing up the landscape into parcels of land with common characteristics. These characteristics are many and</p>

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varied and will be different for each area. They include natural physical influences and human processes but can also include the cultural values that are placed upon an area.

This assessment has as its overarching objective the maintenance and enhancement of landscape character and local distinctiveness.

A summary of ways it is planned to be used is listed below.

- To aid formulation of planning policies.
- To guide landscape change such as informing decisions about the location and design of new woodland. One of the most pressing challenges is the change affecting farming. Traditional family farms and their farming practices are under threat and at the same time there is recognition that the countryside offers a wider resource than just for intensive food production. This recognition provides opportunities for giving greater emphasis to other objectives such as habitat enhancement, management for greater species diversity, opportunities for improved access to the countryside, diversified use of farm buildings and developing local produce for local markets.
- To contribute to identifying landscape management priorities.
- To provide a baseline for future guidelines on specific issues such as development at the edges of settlements.
- To provide a baseline for monitoring change and the condition of the landscape. The measurement of indicators is under development but includes issues such as biodiversity, tranquillity, heritage and landscape character. While components of the landscape such as hedges, stone walls and ponds can be measured; indicators for protection of the wider landscape are less easily measurable. This character assessment can be seen as contributing to the process of defining and recording local indicators.

Cherishing Outdoor Places - A Landscape Strategy for Bath (1994)

The landscape strategy for Bath is a plan of action which the City Council is developing to promote the better protection, enhancement and long term management of the city's outdoor spaces and landscape features.

Through this plan the City Council seeks to address the problems of continuous, but varied, change within the landscape, which is brought about by the natural forces of growth and ageing, of competition between species, disease, decay and the actions of people. It seeks to cherish and celebrate the rich and varied landscape of the city by protecting that which is good and by enhancing that which is not so good.

Bath Building Heights Strategy 2010

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Planning-and-Building-Control/Planning-Policy/Evidence-Base/Urban-Design-Landscape-and-Heritage/BathBuildingHeightsStrategyPart1ExecSummaryandIntro.pdf>

The overall purpose of the strategy is to provide a framework within which decisions can be made about the appropriate height of new buildings in Bath. It will be used as a development management tool and, has been compiled in such a way that it can be transformed into a Supplementary Planning Document

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<p>Economic development</p>
<p>International</p>
<p>Integrating the Environment into EC Economic and Development Co-operation</p> <p>This document examines how, in the overall context of poverty reduction, EC economic and development co-operation can best assist developing country partners to respond to the environmental challenges they are facing. Despite the fact that EC aid flows are limited compared to trade and private capital flows, there is no doubt that EC aid can and should make an important contribution to the achievement of the international development targets. This means not only that specific environmental initiatives should be supported, but also that environmental aspects should be integrated into all existing instruments and programmes.</p> <p>Aims to examine how, in the overall context of poverty reduction, EC economic and development co-operation can best assist developing country partners to respond to the environmental challenges they are facing. Particularly in their efforts to integrate the environmental dimension in their development through improved policy coherence within fields such as trade, agriculture, fisheries and transport and energy.</p>
<p>Strategy for Sustainable Food and Farming (2002)</p> <p>Key principles for sustainable farming and food now and in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce safe, healthy products in response to market demands, and ensure that all consumers have access to nutritious food, and to accurate information about food products. • Support the viability and diversity of rural and urban economies and communities. • Enable viable livelihoods to be made from sustainable land management, both through the market and through payments for public benefits. • Respect and operate within the biological limits of natural resources (especially soil, water and biodiversity). • Achieve consistently high standards of environmental performance by reducing energy consumption, by minimising resource inputs, and use renewable energy wherever possible. • Ensure a safe and hygienic working environment and high social welfare and training for all employees involved in the food chain. • Achieve consistently high standards of animal health and welfare. • Sustain the resource available for growing food and supplying other public benefits over time, except where alternative land uses are essential to meet other needs of society.
<p>National</p>
<p>Planning for Town Centres: Guidance on Design and Implementation Tools 2005</p> <p>This Guidance deals specifically with design issues relating to planning for town centres and some of the main tools available to secure the implementation of town centre planning policies and proposals. It supports Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres (PPS6) which sets out the Government's policy in England on planning for the future of town centres and the main uses that relate to them.</p> <p>The most important planning tools at the local level will be the relevant local development documents. In particular, local planning authorities should make effective use of the core strategy and area action plan development plan documents (where the latter are needed), to establish an effective spatial planning framework within which to reach robust decisions on planning applications.</p> <p>The types of issues which should be considered for inclusion in relevant local development documents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifying the capacity of each centre to accommodate growth, as set out in the relevant development plan document, and make provision for its accommodation; • providing a comprehensive plan for an area of renewal or development;

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • addressing the location and layout of new development; • developing an urban design strategy, which establishes a comprehensive urban design vision and is supported by specific urban design policies, guidelines or proposals for specific sites; • addressing the spatial implications of strategies for parking, traffic management and improvement of the pedestrian environment; and • setting out a detailed implementation programme for bringing forward development on key sites, including, where appropriate, proposals for addressing particular issues such as land assembly through compulsory purchase orders.
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</p> <p>In relation to economic development, the NPPF supersedes and replaces PPS 4 and PPS 1. The NPPF states that planning policies should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for that purpose.</p>
<p>Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (PPG21) July 2006</p> <p>Tourism, in all its forms, is of crucial importance to the economic, social and environmental well-being of the whole country. The planning system has a vital role to play in terms of facilitating the development and improvement of tourism in appropriate locations. This document is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that planners understand the importance of tourism and take this fully into account when preparing development plans and taking planning decisions; • ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism and how these can be applied when preparing individual planning applications; and • ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism developments in a sustainable way.
<p>Tomorrows Tourism Today Department Culture, Media and Sport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage effective marketing and e-tourism; • To improve quality of our tourism offer; • To raise the skills of the tourism workforce; • To enhance data in order to make better decisions; and • To promote advocacy for tourism in Whitehall, the EU and local and regional Government.
<p>Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill (2009)</p> <p>The Bill outlines a new duty for local authorities to assess economic conditions; a joint duty on regional development agencies and local authorities to produce a single regional strategy; and powers for councils to co-operate in promoting economic development.</p>
<p>Local</p>
<p>Retail Strategy: Evidence and Recommendations to Bath and North East Somerset (December 2008)</p> <p>Sets out the recommended retail and retail development strategy for Bath & North East Somerset up to 2026 to be tested through LDF process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision: establish the district as a leader in providing a distinctive retail offer, with a high proportion of local. High quality independent retailers set within a world class shopping experience. • Reduce leakage of expenditure outsider the area to help support the local economy and reduce travel. • Comparison goods: cautious rate of growth, below the high rates of growth in the last years of the economic boom. • Convenience growth rates: less sensitive to recession.

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p>
<p>The strategy provides evidence for the LDF and baseline data for SA.</p>
<p>B&NES Destination Management Plan (October 2007)</p> <p>The purpose of the Destination Management Plan is to ensure that Bath and the surrounding area continues to flourish as a successful leading visitor destination in the years to come and continues to derive benefit from tourism.</p> <p>The aim is:</p> <p>To develop a viable and sustainable visitor economy which continues to make an important contribution to the economic vitality of Bath and the surrounding area, enhances its image and standing, is in harmony with its unique environment, and adds to the quality of life for its residents.</p>
<p>Visitor Accommodation Study, December 2009</p> <p>This report reviews the current provision of visitor accommodation in Bath and North East Somerset (B&NES) and assesses future requirements in terms of the scale, nature and location of accommodation. The study covers all aspects of accommodation across the District but looks in more detail at hotels in Bath.</p> <p>Recommendations are made in the Study report for visitor accommodation in Bath and outside of Bath. The study provides evidence for the LDF and baseline data for SA.</p>
<p>Business Growth and Employment Land Study (March 2009)</p> <p>The study has three main tasks, as set out in the Council's brief:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predict business requirements for economic land uses to 2026; • Assess the current supply of land against these requirements, both in terms of quality and quantity; and • Accordingly propose potential land provision strategies for the District as a whole and its main towns, to show where land should be provided for economic development, and where the Council and its partners should intervene to bring sites forward for development. <p>The study provides evidence for the LDF and baseline data for SA.</p>
<p>The Future for Bath and North East Somerset</p> <p>The purpose of the vision</p> <p>These changes must be guided by a place-shaping vision and set of values to ensure that growth and redevelopment contribute to the Council's overarching Vision for Bath and North East Somerset as a distinctive place, with vibrant and sustainable communities where everyone fulfils their potential.</p> <p>The Local Strategic Partnership's Community Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset establishes a series of 'shared ambitions' and improvement ambitions' which provide a highly relevant framework of values for the future of the district.</p> <p>The Future for Bath and North East Somerset comprises a series of place-focused visions for the revitalisation and growth of the district and, in particular, the main urban centres of Bath, Midsomer Norton and Radstock, and Keynsham. It seeks to realise a number of the ambitions of the Community Strategy and to provide a direct response to the Economic Development and Enterprise section of the Local Area Agreement.</p>

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p>
<p>Housing</p>
<p>National</p>
<p>Circular 06/98: Planning and affordable housing</p> <p>To help local planning authorities to adopt a realistic and consistent approach to preparing plan policies and handling planning applications involving affordable housing; To encourage a co-operative approach to preparing affordable housing policies, which ensures that the views of all those involved in delivering affordable housing are taken into account; To clarify that affordable housing policies should be based on a clear and up-to-date assessment of local need for affordable housing; To provide guidance on securing and controlling the occupancy of affordable housing; and To ensure that affordable housing delivered through the planning system is likely to be attractive to lenders of private finance.</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</p> <p>In relation to housing the NPPF supersedes and replaces PPS 3 and PPS 1. The NPPF states that, to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, widen opportunities for home ownership and create sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities, local planning authorities should plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community; and should identify the size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations, reflecting local demand.</p>
<p>Delivering Affordable Housing Nov 2006</p> <p>The aim of this document is to support local authorities and other key players in delivering more high quality affordable housing within mixed sustainable communities by using all tools available to them. It outlines the affordable housing challenge that needs to be met, and provides information on how existing delivery mechanisms operate to help in delivery. The Government believes everyone should have the opportunity of a decent home, which they can afford, within a sustainable mixed community. This means providing a wide choice of housing to meet the needs of the whole community in terms of tenures and price ranges. This should include affordable housing, both social rented and intermediate. Affordable housing policy is based around three themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing high quality homes in mixed sustainable communities for those in need; widen the opportunities for home ownership; and • offering greater quality, flexibility and choice to those who rent.
<p>Preparing Design Codes - A Practice Manual Nov 2006 CABE</p> <p>This guide is intended as a user friendly manual which provides helpful and practical advice to local authorities, developers and other key stakeholders on how design codes can be prepared and used effectively. It sets out good practice drawn from real examples of developing and implementing design codes across England, and from wider international experience. The purpose of this guide is to show how Design Codes can help deliver good quality places, and to explain how Design Coding as a process can be integrated into the planning, design and development processes that shape the built environment. This guide addresses these important issues. It forms the 'what', 'how' and 'who' guide to preparing and implementing design codes, by answering the following three key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are design codes, and why and where are they useful? • How can they be prepared and what represents an efficient and effective design coding process?

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- Who is responsible, and what are the roles of all those involved through all stages of the process from preparation to implementation?

DETR (2000) Building a Better Quality of Life: A Strategy for More Sustainable Construction

This Strategy aims to provide a catalyst for change in construction across the United Kingdom. It identifies priority areas for action, and suggests indicators and targets to measure progress.

The objectives of this Strategy are:

- to promote awareness and understanding of sustainable construction;
- to set out how the Government expects the construction industry to contribute to sustainable development;
- to show how Government policies will help to bring about change; and
- to stimulate action by individual businesses to set, and monitor their progress towards, targets for more sustainable construction which require continuous improvement.

This Strategy builds on the framework and priorities for sustainable development set out in A better quality of life. Amongst those priorities were:

- more investment in people and equipment for a competitive economy;
- achieving higher growth whilst reducing pollution and use of resources;
- sharing the benefits of growth more widely and more fairly;
- improving our towns and cities and protecting the quality of the countryside; and
- contributing to sustainable development internationally.

Sustainable Communities: Homes for All (5 Year Plan) ODPM

It aims to expand housing opportunities, including for those who need additional support, and for disadvantaged sections of society.

The Government will reduce homelessness by offering a wider range of preventative measures and increasing access to settled homes, halving the numbers living in temporary accommodation by 2010.

To balance new housing provision with environmental protection by:

- Tackling low demand and abandonment;
- Ensuring quality and choice in renting;
- Promoting home ownership;
- Supporting the role of local authorities; and
- Tackling homelessness.

Sustainable Communities: settled homes; changing lives (a strategy for tackling homelessness) March 2005

The Paper sets out the Government's priorities for tackling homelessness.

To cut the use of temporary accommodation and prevent homelessness by:

- Providing support for vulnerable people;
- Tackling the wider causes and symptoms of homelessness;
- Helping more people move away from rough sleeping; and
- Providing more settled homes.

The overall aim of the strategy is to halve the number of households living in temporary accommodation by 2010.

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Improving Opportunity, Strengthening Society: The Government's strategy to increase race equality and community cohesion Home Office

This strategy sets out one strand of the Government's overall drive to improve fairness and opportunities for all in Britain; how we will ensure that a person's ethnicity is not a barrier to their success and how we will foster the cohesion necessary to enable people from minority and majority communities to work together for social and economic progress.

To increase race equality: and

To improve community cohesion.

Circular 01/06: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites

This Circular provides updated guidance on the planning aspects of finding sites and how local authorities and Gypsies and Travellers can work together to achieve that aim and should be seen in the context of the Government's key objective for planning for housing – to ensure that everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent home.

- To create and support sustainable, respectful, and inclusive communities where gypsies and travellers have fair access to suitable accommodation, education, health and welfare provision; where there is mutual respect and consideration between all communities for the rights and responsibilities of each community and individual; and where there is respect between individuals and communities towards the environments in which they live and work.
- To reduce the number of unauthorised encampments and developments and the conflict and controversy they cause and to make enforcement more effective where local authorities have complied with the guidance in this Circular.
- To increase significantly the number of gypsy and traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission in order to address under-provision over the next 3 – 5 years.
- To recognise, protect and facilitate the traditional travelling way of life of gypsies and travellers, whilst respecting the interests of the settled community.
- To underline the importance of assessing needs at regional and sub-regional level and for local authorities to develop strategies to ensure that needs are dealt with fairly and effectively.
- To identify and make provision for the resultant land and accommodation requirements.
- To ensure that DPDs include fair, realistic and inclusive policies and to ensure identified need is dealt with fairly and effectively.
- To promote more private gypsy and traveller site provision in appropriate locations through the planning system, while recognising that there will always be those who cannot provide their own sites.
- To help to avoid gypsies and travellers becoming homeless through eviction from unauthorised sites without an alternative to move to.

Regional

West of England Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2009)

A SHMA should estimate housing need and demand in terms of affordable and market housing, determine how the distribution of need and demand varies across the area, consider future demographic trends and identify the accommodation requirements of specific groups and the likely mix of housing. Forecasting in the modeling work has generally been undertaken at five year intervals from 2006 to 2026, with the main emphasis on the period to 2021.

The overwhelming message is one of very high housing need, in relation both to household growth and in relation to likely total future supply. It is clear that continuing current policies will not be sufficient to meet even a significant proportion of the housing need identified in the SHMA.

The SHMA is a key evidence document and also provides baseline information for SA.

West of England Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment (Oct 2007)

http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWRA/RSS%20Documents/Gypsies_and_Travellers/West_of_England_GTAA.pdf

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<p>The Housing Act 2004 requires local authorities to assess the accommodation need for Gypsies and Travellers residing in or resorting to their areas, in a manner similar to that used to undertake accommodation assessments for the rest of the population. Having undertaken such an exercise, local authorities must then develop a strategy, which addresses the need arising from the accommodation assessment, through either public or private provision.</p>
<p>Local</p>
<p>B&NES Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update 2013 http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Planning-and-Building-Control/Planning-Policy/Evidence-Base/Housing/banes_shma_update_2013.pdf</p>
<p>Opinion Research Services (ORS) was commissioned by Bath and North East Somerset Council (BANES) to undertake a Strategic Housing Market Assessment Review, including a study of current and future housing requirements and housing need.</p> <p>SHMAs assess the full range of housing requirements for an area to both deepen understanding of sub-regional housing markets and develop future strategy, all based on the best available evidence. Critically, their evidence base shapes and assists with the production of the Local Plan which set out the spatial policy for a local area. They also provide evidence to support development of local housing strategies and can also inform the planning of other services such as education, health and transport.</p>
<p>Bath and North East Somerset Housing Key Partnership (BE at home –improving our housing situation for local people Draft Housing Strategy –2005-2010</p>
<p>This document sets out the housing issues for local people and how organisations working in partnership will aim to address them.</p> <p>The priority themes are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To tackle fuel poverty and climate change by making homes warmer and more energy efficient To be well informed about the strategic housing needs of a growing and changing population and to prioritise services To reduce inequalities by meeting housing needs To improve access to existing affordable housing by matching people to homes To make homes safer and healthier To increase the supply of new affordable housing
<p>B&NES Local Strategic Partnership Housing Strategy Draft Affordable Housing Delivery Plan June 2006</p>
<p>The Affordable Housing Delivery Plan addresses in detail for nine key issues identified by the Housing Strategy 2005-10.</p>
<p>Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document 2008 Appendix B Affordable Housing Further Guidance</p>
<p>The aim of this Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is to provide clear guidance on the Council's approach to Planning Obligations. Planning obligations are also known as 'S.106 Agreements' or simply 'Planning Agreements'. It will provide the general public, landowners, developers and other stakeholders with clarity about the process by which planning obligations will be sought, when they will be sought and what they will be sought for.</p> <p>Planning Obligations on developers are used to secure affordable housing and financial contributions to mitigate the impact of new development on social and other infrastructure such as roads and community facilities.</p>

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p>
<p>Natural Resources, Water and Soil</p>
<p>International</p>
<p>The EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EU)</p> <p>European Water Policy has undergone a thorough restructuring process, and a new Water Framework Directive adopted in 2000 will be the operational tool, setting the objectives for water protection for the future.</p> <p>There are a number of objectives in respect of which the quality of water is protected. The key ones at European level are general protection of the aquatic ecology, specific protection of unique and valuable habitats, protection of drinking water resources, protection of bathing water, and to reverse any antropogenically induced upward pollution trend. Taken together, these should ensure the protection of groundwater from all contamination, according to the principle of minimum anthropogenic impact.</p>
<p>Surface Water Abstraction Directive (75/440/EEC)</p> <p>Surface Water Abstraction Directive controls the quality of water from rivers, lakes and reservoirs that is used to supply public drinking water. It establishes quality standards for abstracted surface waters, ensures that water is appropriately treated before it enters the public supply and improves the overall quality of surface water sources that are used as a source of drinking water.</p>
<p>Groundwater Directive (80/68/EEC)</p> <p>The Groundwater Directive prohibits the direct or indirect discharge into groundwater of List I substances and limits discharges of List II substances so as to avoid pollution.</p>
<p>EU Thematic Strategy on Soil (European Commission, 2006)</p> <p>The EU Thematic Strategy on Soil advocates higher levels of protection to the soil resource.</p>
<p>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (98/15/EEC)</p> <p>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (98/15/EEC): Measures to set emission standards, or percentage reductions in pollutant concentrations, for discharges from sewage treatment works serving a population equivalent of 2,000 or more. Protect the environment from the adverse effects of discharges of urban waste water and of waste water from industrial sectors of agro-food industry.</p>
<p>Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)</p> <p>The Directive seeks to reduce or prevent the pollution of water caused by the application and storage of inorganic fertiliser and manure on farmland. It is designed both to safeguard drinking water supplies and to prevent wider ecological damage in the form of the eutrophication of freshwater and marine waters generally.</p>
<p>National</p>
<p>Water resources for the future - a Strategy for England and Wales (Southern Region targets) and Water resources for the future annual review 2000/60/EU</p> <p>It set out the Government's strategic vision for the direction of water policy, its place among broader Government objectives in England, and identified the main future priorities and direction for the inland and coastal water environment, water resources and the water and sewerage industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To manage water resources in a way that causes no long-term degradation of the environment; • To improve the state of existing degraded catchments; • To ensure that water is available to those who need it, and that it is used wisely by all; • To indicate the present state of water resources; • To cater robustly for risks and uncertainties; • To promote the value of water to society and the environment; • To review feasible water management options including innovative solutions where appropriate;

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- To provide a framework for logical decisions to be taken at the right time; and
- To identify actions and opportunities for the Environment Agency and others to work together to achieve the Strategy's vision.

Future Water Strategy: The Government's Water Strategy for England, DEFRA (2008)

Future Water sets out how we want the water sector to look by 2030, and some of the steps we will need to take to get there. It is a vision where rivers, canals, lakes and seas have improved for people and wildlife, with benefits for angling, boating and other recreational activities, and where we continue to provide excellent quality drinking water. It is a vision of a sector that values and protects its water resources; that delivers water to customers through fair, affordable and cost-reflective charges; where flood risk is addressed with markedly greater understanding and use of good surface water management; and where the water industry has cut its greenhouse gas emissions. The vision shows a sector that is resilient to climate change, with its likelihood of more frequent droughts as well as floods, and to population growth, with forward planning fully in tune with these adaptation challenges.

In short, our vision is for sustainable delivery of secure water supplies and an improved and protected water environment.

The vision for water policy and management is one where, by 2030 at the latest, we have:

- improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps;
- sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water;
- ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and costreflective water charges;
- cut greenhouse gas emissions; and
- embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users.

The First Soil Action Plan for England (2004)

This First Soil Action Plan is aimed at policy makers, industry leaders and influencers across the wide spectrum of activities that impinge on soils: from land use planning, construction and minerals extraction to agriculture, forestry and nature, landscape and cultural heritage conservation. It builds on the earlier Draft Soil Strategy for England and sets out the actions which Defra and partners are committed to take to help protect soil functions. The Action Plan is complemented by an Environment Agency report on the State of Soils in England and Wales.

The vision is to ensure that England's soils will be protected and managed to optimise the varied functions that soils perform for society (e.g. supporting agriculture and forestry, protecting cultural heritage, supporting biodiversity, as a platform for construction), in keeping with the principles of sustainable development and on the basis of sound evidence.

Planning for Soil: Advice on how the planning system can help to protect and enhance soils SNIFFER, April 2004

This advice note aims to help planning authorities address soil issues in forward planning and in the execution of their development control functions. It is aimed at all those who are involved in the development process. This includes forward planning and development controls staff, elected members, developers, statutory consultees, architectural, planning, landscape and engineering consultants and non-governmental organisations.

- Soil issues should be considered during the process of developing plan policies. Soil should be included as a criterion within the statutory SEA process.
- Plans should include 'high level' plan policies on soil, setting out a commitment to the protection and enhancement of soils as part of a wider, sustainable approach to planning and development;
- Strategic development plan proposals (for example relating to new settlements or urban expansion) should include consideration of the likely effects on soils and soil functions;
- 'Soils' should be included as a criterion within more detailed development plan policies (e.g. For waste or minerals);
- Outline guidance should be provided for developers to ensure that soil is considered as a factor throughout the design and implementation of a project; and

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soils should be considered in the process of plan review and appraisal. State of the Environment Reporting and national and more local sustainability indicators will provide a partial measure of the success of development plans in protecting and enhancing soils.
<p>Defra (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England</p> <p>Contains the vision that by 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England's soils and safeguard their ability to provide essential services for future generations.</p> <p>Our soils have degraded over the last 200 years due to intensive agricultural production and industrial pollution. Soils in England continue to face three main threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil erosion by wind and rain. Erosion affects both the productivity of soils but also water quality and aquatic ecosystems. • Compaction of soil reduces agricultural productivity and water infiltration, and increases flood risk through higher levels of run off. • Organic matter decline. The loss of soil organic matter reduces soil quality, affecting the supply of nutrients and making it more difficult for plants to grow, and increases emissions to the atmosphere. <p>All these threats may be magnified by climate change. Safeguarding our soils for future generations means managing them better, reducing degradation and building resilience to increasing pressures in order to provide a sustainable food supply and cope with our changing climate.</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework</p> <p>In relation to natural resources, water and soil, the NPPF supersedes and replaces PPS 9, PPS 23 and PPS 25.</p> <p>The NPPF states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils.</p>
<p>Water Act 2003</p> <p>The Water Resources Act of 1991 controls the abstraction and impounding of water. In November 2003 the Water Act received Royal Assent, which will lead to a major change in the sustainable management of water resources in England and Wales.</p>
<p>Directing the flow – Priorities for future water policy DEFRA 2002</p> <p>The document describes the place of water policy among broader Government objectives and shows how water policy is linked with a range of other policy areas including: Agriculture and fisheries; Land Use; Climate Change; Biodiversity; Leisure and recreation; and Flood management.</p> <p><i>Objectives</i></p> <p>Key commitments which are outlined in this document include <i>inter alia</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying further measures needed to address diffused pollution from agriculture; • Examining the scale of the problem of urban diffuse pollution and the options for addressing it; • Ensuring land use planning guidance takes proper account of water objectives; • Considering the need for additional water quality objectives to protect our most important biodiversity sites; and • Systematic moves to achieve better integration between river basin management plans, including flood management plans.
<p>Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice GP3 Consultation Document Environment Agency 2006</p> <p>Part 4 of Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice (GP3) summarises the legislation relevant to the management and protection of groundwater and sets out Environment Agency's associated and complementary policies.</p> <p>The document sets out the policy statements based around a common structure. It consists of an introduction to the subject area and a summary of the key issues. Where appropriate Environment Agency has indicated whether a policy statement is focused on development planning or regulatory activity (the latter being normally focused on day to day operation).</p>

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies:**Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA****Food 2030 (DEFRA, January 2010)**

Food 2030: the big food challenges are sustainability, security and health. Six core issues are:

- Encouraging and enabling people to eat a healthy, sustainable diet;
- Having a resilient and economically sustainable food system;
- Increasing food production sustainably;
- Reducing the food system's greenhouse gas emissions;
- Reducing, reusing and reprocessing waste; and
- Having the appropriate research, skills, knowledge and technology.

Regional**The Bristol Avon Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy April 2005 Environment Agency**

This document will enable Environment Agency to manage water resources in a more sustainable way. Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) are six-year plans detailing how we are going to manage water resources.

Water Level Management Plans

The Water Level Management Plan (WLMP) initiative provides a means by which the water level requirements for a range of activities in SSSIs and Natura 2000 sites, including conservation, agriculture and flood defence, can be balanced and integrated.

In the lower Avon, implementation of the plans aims to establish appropriate water level management in the SPA/SSSI, reversing the decline in grazing marsh habitat, breeding waders and wintering wildfowl. The plans take into account the needs of the river, but primarily focus on restoring appropriate water levels in the floodplain. In the upper Avon, the priority for WLMPs is to ensure appropriate water level management for the SAC, taking into account seasonal variations in flow. Enhancement of Desmoulin's whorl snail habitat in the upper Avon should only take place at locations and times when this will not impact on the riverine interests.

Groundwater Protection Policy: 'Policy and Practice' and 'underground, under threat' (Environment Agency, 2006)

The two main threats to groundwater resources are:

Demand - Over use of Groundwater depletes the public water supply, so we might not be able to rely on it in the future. Many rivers and wildlife also depend on groundwater and may be harmed, or lost, if groundwater levels become too low. More than one quarter of groundwater sources in England are at risk of failing new objectives to be set under the EU Water Framework Directive because of abstraction pressures.

Pollution - Groundwater is vulnerable to contamination and is difficult to clean. Nitrate, pesticides, solvents and other chemicals can get into groundwater from both surface water and soils.

Bristol Avon Catchment Flood Management Plan Summary Report (Environment Agency, December 2009)

Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs) give an overview of the flood risk across each river catchment and estuary. They recommend ways of managing those risks now and over the next 50-100 years.

CFMPs consider all types of inland flooding, from rivers, ground water, surface water and tidal flooding, but not flooding directly from the sea. They also take into account the likely impacts of climate change, the effects of how we use and manage the land, and how areas could be developed to meet our present day needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Future direction for Flood Risk Management

In Bath:

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Areas of moderate to high flood risk where we can generally take further action to reduce flood risk: This policy will tend to be applied to those areas where the case for further action to reduce flood risk is most compelling, for example where there are many people at high risk, or where changes in the environment have already increased risk. Taking further action to reduce risk will require additional appraisal to assess whether there are socially and environmentally sustainable, technically viable and economically justified options.

In the area surrounding Bath (falling within the Lower Avon sub-area):

Areas of low to moderate flood risk where we are generally managing existing flood risk effectively: This policy will tend to be applied where the risks are currently appropriately managed and where the risk of flooding is not expected to increase significantly in the future. However, we keep our approach under review, looking for improvements and responding to new challenges or information as they emerge. We may review our approach to managing flood defences and other flood risk management actions, to ensure that we are managing efficiently and taking the best approach to managing flood risk in the longer term.

In the Midsomer Norton and Radstock area (falling within the Mendip Slopes and Long Ashton sub-area):

Areas of low, moderate or high flood risk where we are already managing the flood risk effectively but where we may need to take further actions to keep pace with climate change. This policy will tend to be applied where the risks are currently deemed to be appropriately-managed, but where the risk of flooding is expected to significantly rise in the future. In this case we would need to do more in the future to contain what would otherwise be increasing risk. Taking further action to reduce risk will require further appraisal to assess whether there are socially and environmentally sustainable, technically viable and economically justified options.

Wessex Water Business Plan 2010-2015 April 2010

<http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/about/threecol.aspx?id=2984>

Every five years water companies are required to submit to the water regulator, Ofwat, business plans that reflect the funding necessary to operate the business and to undertake new investment.

Wessex Water submitted a business plan that delivers around £1 billion worth of investment focussing on what matters most to customers while at the same time keeping bills low. The investment proposed for 2010 to 2015 improves and develops the water and sewerage infrastructure in the region and helps meet stringent environmental requirements. Their business plan aims to maintain high levels of service and quality at a cost customers consider both affordable and reasonable.

It includes schemes to:

- improve security of supply through building an integrated water supply grid which will provide greater flexibility for how we distribute water around our region
- make a further reduction in leakage
- reduce the number of properties at risk of sewer flooding.

Local**Bath and North East Somerset (June 2003) Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy**

The document sets out the Inspection Strategy of the Bath and North East Somerset Council (B&NES) in identifying contaminated land under the Governments regulatory regime, referred to as the Part IIA regime. The document includes the proposed methodology for inspection of the District, identification of contaminated land and how all information gathered will be handled.

This Strategy document has been produced to meet the requirements of the contaminated land regime. This is carried out through the implementation of the Contaminated Land Strategy with the following aims:

- To identify unacceptable risks to human health and the environment from the immediate and long-term effects of contaminated ground;
- To address properties/land in need of remediation in order to improve the environment within the B&NES District;
- To encourage methods of tackling contaminated land, which ensure compatibility with Council policy, encourage best practice and are in the spirit of sustainability;

<p>Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies: Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a Strategy available to the public, which presents the regime in a clear and understandable format; • To provide an efficient mechanism to allow regulatory bodies and other interested parties to liaise and exchange information; and • To encourage the voluntary remediation and redevelopment of contaminated land.
<p>Development of Potentially Contaminated Land – Guidance Note for Developers, Agents and Consultants Bath and North East Somerset</p> <p>This guidance is aimed at site owners, developers and their consultants who may be involved in the assessment and management of land contamination. The purpose of this guide is to make developers aware of what information the Council may require in order to assess an application for planning permission.</p>
<p>Environment Agency River Basin Management Plan, Severn Basin District (December 2009)</p> <p>In the Severn River Basin District, only 29 per cent of surface waters are currently classified as good or better ecological status. 37 per cent of assessed surface water bodies are at good biological status now, although the EA expect this to change to 32 per cent when they have assessed all water bodies.</p> <p>A range of specific pressures need to be dealt with in this river basin district. The most significant of these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • abstraction and other artificial flow regulation – problems related to taking water from rivers, lakes and groundwater; • non-native species - invasive non-native species are plants and animals that have deliberately or accidentally been introduced outside their natural range, and by spreading quickly threaten native wildlife and can cause economic damage; • nitrate – a nutrient found in fertilisers used in agriculture, and in sewage effluent; • pesticides – chemical and biological products used to kill or control pests; • phosphate – a nutrient in sewage and fertiliser, which can cause too much algae to grow in rivers when in excess quantities; • physical modification – changes to the structure of water bodies, such as for flood defence; • sediment – undissolved particles floating on top or suspended within water, for example those caused by increased rates of soil erosion from land based activities. Sedimentation can smother river life and spread pollutants from the land into the water environment; • urban and transport pollution – a range of pollutants related to urban areas and the transport network.. <p>Actions identified within the plan for regional and local government to tackle these pressures include:</p>
<p>Severn Estuary Salmon Action Plan (2003)</p> <p>The Severn Estuary Salmon Action Plan includes the following actions.</p> <p>Increase available spawning and rearing area, Improve and protect habitats, Maximise effectiveness of stocking programme, Improve water quality, Improve water quantity, Reduce the impact of bird predation on juvenile salmon survival, Improve stock assessment, Reduce exploitation</p>
<p>A Better Environment, Healthier Fisheries: Better Fisheries for our Nations 2006-2011 (Environment Agency, 2006)</p> <p>A Better Environment, Healthier Fisheries: Better Fisheries for our nations sets a number of objectives, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve fish stocks and create a better environment for wildlife and people; • Provide more chances for more people to fish and help fisheries to perform better; and • Help sustainable fisheries boost the local economy.
<p>Water Resources Management Plan (Wessex Water Services Ltd, May 2008)</p> <p>B&NES largely falls within the WRMU 2 Bristol Avon which is designated as having 'no water available'.</p> <p>The River Avon has been allocated a Medium 'environmental weighting' score (relating to abstractions- the impacts upon flow resulting from abstraction activity).</p> <p>Wessex Water is committed to ensuring continuous flow within the River Avon. This is to be achieved via support and selective abstraction practices which control inputs to and outputs from the river.</p>

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies:**Aim of Document including key Objectives, Targets and Indicators relevant to plan and SA**

The EA will consider new unconstrained abstractions (river flow restrictions apply).

In 2007, approx. 40% of households within the Wessex Water supply area (which includes B&NES) were metered.

Flood Risk Management Strategy (June 2010)

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Planning-and-Building-Control/Planning-Policy/Evidence-Base/Flood-Risk/FRMSReport.pdf>

The Flood Risk Management Strategy has been commissioned by Bath & North East Somerset Council to identify where strategic and site based flood risk management measures can be implemented to make sites at risk of flooding developable without increasing the flood risk elsewhere. The Strategy links a series of proposed development sites to on-and off-site solutions and by considering all potential development sites together, the Council should ensure that individual sites are not left undevelopable because of flood risk.

The Flood Risk Management Strategy has concluded that there is no strategic solution reducing peak flow through Bath which is either technically or economically viable. As such the Strategy proposes the provision of compensatory storage upstream combined with on-site flood defences. New development must provide storage to offset the volume of water that would be displaced in a flood event by the defences on-site. In order to meet this requirement, a maximum flood storage area of 345,000m³ volume would be required as this is equivalent to the total combined volume of the footprint of the identified development sites. Provision of compensatory storage off-site is more cost-effective than providing it on-site and allows for greater flexibility in master planning sites.

1.2 Given the limited impact of flooding on development sites proposed in Keynsham, Midsomer Norton and Radstock there is not a business case for off-site storage in these areas. The Strategy recommends that these sites proceed on a site-by-site basis.

Safer and Stronger Communities
International
European Spatial Development Perspective European commission 1999
<p>The European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) is a document approved by the Informal Council of Ministers of Spatial Planning of European Commission in Potsdam in 1999. It is a legally non-binding document forming a policy framework with 60 policy options for all tiers of administration with a planning responsibility. The strategic aim is to achieve a balanced and sustainable spatial development strategy.</p> <p>Development of a polycentric and balanced urban system, and strengthening of the partnership between urban and rural areas, so as to create a new urban-rural relationship.</p> <p>Promotion of integrated transport and communication concepts, which support the polycentric development of the EU territory, so that there is gradual progress towards parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge.</p> <p>Wise management of the natural and cultural heritage, which will help conserve regional identities and cultural diversity in the face of globalisation.</p>
National
White Paper Choosing Health: making healthier choices easier. Department of Health 2004
<p>This White Paper sets out the key principles for supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health. The Government will provide information and practical support to get people motivated and improve emotional wellbeing and access to services so that healthy choices are easier to make.</p> <p>Relevant objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle obesity- Development of School Travel Plan (cycling); • Community action to improve health - smoke free environment, tackle alcohol problem; and • Improve the work environment as a source of better health.
National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)
<p>In relation to crime and community safety, the NPPF supersedes and replaces PPS 1 and PPG 17</p> <p>The NPPF promotes provision of opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages. It also aims to provide safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and to provide safe and accessible developments, with clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space.</p> <p>The NPPF does not impose any new targets in relation to crime and community safety.</p>
Our health, our care, our say White Paper (January 2006):
<p>It aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • change the way these services are provided in communities and make them as flexible as possible; • provide a more personal service that is tailored to the specific health or social care needs of individuals; • give patients and service users more control over the treatment they receive; and • work with health and social care professionals and services to get the most appropriate treatment or care for their needs.
A New Commitment to Neighbourhood Renewal – National Strategy Action Plan, Social Exclusion Unit (2001)
<p>This action plan addresses neighbourhood decline, its causes and how to overcome the current problems, providing examples of good practice. The strategy aims to take a long-term, integrated approach to tackling neighbourhood renewal. The overarching vision of the strategy is to ensure that no one is living in a disadvantaged neighbourhood within the next 10-20 years. This vision will be achieved by addressing these three areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating new policies, funding and targets;

- Better local co-ordination and community empowerment; and
- National and regional support.

Objectives

- For all the poorest neighbourhoods, to have common goals of lower worklessness and crime, and better health, skills, housing and physical environment; and
- To narrow the gap on these measures between the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the country.

Reaching Out: An Action Plan on Social Exclusion Social Exclusion Unit 2006

The UK is a country of growing prosperity. The last decade has seen many more people in jobs, thanks to record levels of employment; crime has fallen by 44 per cent; the vast majority of people – 19 out of 20 – have seen their incomes rise by 2 to 3 per cent each year; 800,000 children and 1 million pensioners have been lifted out of poverty; and we have experienced year-on-year increases in educational attainment and life expectancy. These improvements have benefited less well-off people the most, extending the opportunities of living in the UK to a wider section of our society than ever before.

On 11 September 2006, the Social Exclusion Task Force has published a report (Reaching out: an action plan on social exclusion) which sets out the work, across government, to improve the life chances and opportunities of the most disadvantaged and hard-to-reach in society.

Urban White Paper –Our Towns and cities –The Future

How we live our lives is shaped by where we live our lives. But wherever people live, they want the same things: jobs, a healthy economy, a decent home, good public services and an attractive and safe environment. North or south, urban or rural, the parts of our country though different are inextricably intertwined and interdependent. People also want to have a say in what happens in their community and to shape their own future.

Our guiding principle is that people must come first. Our policies, programmes and structures of governance are based on engaging local people in partnerships for change with strong local leadership. This inclusive approach is at the heart of our work on tackling social exclusion, and is central to achieving sustainable economic growth. And it is the approach which underlies both this White Paper and our parallel White Paper on rural communities.

The vision is of towns, cities and suburbs which offer a high quality of life and opportunity for all, not just the few. We want to see:

- people shaping the future of their community, supported by strong and truly representative local leaders;
- people living in attractive, well-kept towns and cities which use space and buildings well;
- good design and planning which makes it practical to live in a more environmentally sustainable way, with less noise, pollution and traffic congestion;
- towns and cities able to create and share prosperity, investing to help all their citizens reach their full potential; and
- good quality services - health, education, housing, transport, finance, shopping, leisure and protection from crime - that meet the needs of people and businesses wherever they are.

Rural White Paper: Our Countryside –the Future – a Fair Deal for Rural England (DETR 2000)

Our vision is of rural areas evolving in ways which enhance landscape and biodiversity. It is of a forward looking and competitive farming industry, delivering good stewardship of the environment as well as producing our food. It is of a rural economy based on information technology as well as on traditional skills. In short, not a theme park, but a living, working countryside for real people. We want a countryside which can shape its own future, with its voice heard by Government at all levels.”

For country residents:

- Investment in better public services – schools, health, transport and crime reduction – and a rural service standard, reviewed annually;
- 3,000 new affordable homes every year in small settlements;
- Access to a wide range of day-to-day transactions through post offices, internet and local small businesses; and
- A bigger say in community planning.

For rural businesses:

- Investment in market towns and more targeted help from Regional Development Agencies;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better transport, ICT coverage, skills training and business advice; and • Potential reduction in rate bills. <p>For farmers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More money for agri-environment schemes; marketing grants, and tailored business advice to help modernise and improve agricultural, horticultural and forestry holdings help with planning to enable farmers to use surplus farm buildings and, less burdensome regulation generally; • Help with diversification, marketing and skill training; and • Support for small and medium sized abattoirs. <p>For everyone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger protection for our most valued landscapes, and for wildlife and habitats; • More access and a better rights of way network; and • A living, working countryside maintained for the benefit of us all, wherever we live.
Learning to Last – Sustainable Development Education Strategy (Draft 2003)
The Aim of this strategy is to ensure that all aspects of lifelong learning are fully engaged in the provision of effective education for sustainable development.
Regional
Regional and sub-Regional Economic Strategies
See Economy section
Regional Housing Strategy
See Housing section
Regional Sustainable Communities Plan
See General section
Skill Strategies
See Economy section
Local
Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2016 (Bath & North East Somerset Strategic Partnership, 2009)
<p>The Sustainable Community Strategy is high level and aspirational. It sits above the Core Strategy and the Regeneration Development Plans and will inform them. The Strategy reflects the views of the public and other stakeholders within the district.</p> <p>The vision for the district, as set out within the Sustainable Community Strategy, is for the district to be a distinctive place with vibrant, sustainable communities where everyone fulfils their potential.</p> <p>This means working towards ensuring that the following is achieved:</p> <p>A distinctive place that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains and enhances its outstanding built and natural environment; Has a dynamic, low carbon economy; Achieves connectivity; and Has world class arts and culture. <p>Vibrant sustainable communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That are lively and inclusive; Places where people feel safe, take responsibility and make a contribution; That are carbon neutral; Where the disadvantaged are supported; Where the vulnerable are protected. <p>Where people feel proud to live Communities where everyone fulfils their potential by having an equal opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn and develop skills; Enjoy a healthy, low carbon lifestyle; Influence the future of their area; Contribute to the economy and society.

Bath and North East Somerset Play Policy

http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/bath_and_north_east_somerset_full_play_policy.pdf

This policy sets out Bath & North East Somerset's understanding of play and confirms its commitment to ensuring that quality play environments are available to all its children. The policy is underpinned by the principles outlined in the Council's statement of vision and values and its equality policies.

This document aims to be a practical working tool, to be referred to whenever decisions about play need to be made. It is therefore applicable to **all** forms of children's services whose objectives include the provision of play opportunities. These include, for example, after-school clubs, nurseries, playgroups, holiday play schemes, non-supervised fixed-equipment playgrounds, schools (in breaktime), play centres and adventure playgrounds.

Green Space Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset March 2007

This strategy brings together a number of pieces of research that have been carried out over the past two years and analyses the current provision of green space based on their findings. Its focus is on all publicly accessible green space, regardless of owner or manager.

The strategy considers a number of key factors across different types of green space, it looks at issues of:

- 1. Quantity – how much green space is there in the district ;
- 2. Distribution – where is the space located in relation to people;
- 3. Quality – what is the current quality of the green spaces ;
- 4. Value – how important are the green spaces;
- 5. Need – what do the people of the district need in terms of green spaces; and
- 6. Policy – what is the policy context for green spaces nationally, regionally and locally.

Specific benefits of this strategy include:

1. It identifies where the supply or quality of green space is deficient, so that resources and funding bids can be concentrated into those areas.
2. It assists the Council in protecting existing green space from development, and ensures that where development does take place, an appropriate level of community facilities are provided. This may often involve improving existing facilities rather than simply providing new ones.
3. It provides a management framework to enable the owners of all publicly accessible green space to manage their spaces to the full benefit of all users and for the benefit of biodiversity.

Transport
International
EU Manual on Strategic Environmental Assessment of Transport Infrastructure Plans
<p>This document presents guidance on how to carry out strategic environmental assessment (SEA) for transport plans and programmes in England in accordance with the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, also known as the SEA Directive¹. The Directive was transposed in England through The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (Statutory Instrument 2004, no. 1633). It integrates the Directive's requirements with existing transport appraisal processes – the New Approach to Appraisal (NATA).</p> <p>To prevent unnecessary environmental complications and delays at the project level (the level at which environmental impact assessment (EIA) is applied);</p> <p>To consider environmentally friendly alternatives that are no longer feasible at the project level, and prevent expensive mitigation measures; and</p> <p>To reduce public resistance to transport infrastructure projects, and raise environmental awareness in the transport sector.</p>
National
National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)
<p>The NPPF states that transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development but also in contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. Smarter use of technologies can reduce the need to travel. The transport system needs to be balanced in favour of sustainable transport modes, giving people a real choice about how they travel. However, the Government recognises that different policies and measures will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas.</p> <p>Encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion. In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>Local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development, including large scale facilities such as rail freight interchanges, roadside facilities for motorists or transport investment necessary to support strategies for the growth of ports, airports or other major generators of travel demand in their areas. The primary function of roadside facilities for motorists should be to support the safety and welfare of the road user.</p>
Government DfT 10 year Transport Plan 2000
<p>Our strategy for transport is to tackle congestion and pollution by improving all types of transport - rail and road, public and private - in ways that increase choice. It is a strategy for investment in the future to create prosperity and a better environment.</p>
Transport White Paper the Future of Transport A Network for 2030 DfT 2004
<p>The ability to travel offers all of us very real benefits and extending mobility is important in building an inclusive society. The transport system helps to underpin the international competitiveness of the economy. But mobility comes at a cost, whether financial, social or environmental. We need to ensure that we can benefit from mobility and access while minimising the impact on other people and the environment, now and in the future.</p> <p>We need a transport network that can meet the challenges of a growing economy and the increasing demand for travel, but can also achieve our environmental objectives. This means coherent transport networks with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The road network providing a more reliable and freer-flowing service for both personal travel and freight, with people able to make informed choices about how and when they travel; • The rail network providing a fast, reliable and efficient service, particularly for interurban journeys and commuting into large urban areas; • Bus services that are reliable, flexible, convenient and tailored to local needs; • Making walking and cycling a real alternative for local trips; and

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ports and airports providing improved international and domestic links.
<p>Manual for Streets I and II (DoT, 2010)</p> <p>Manual for Streets is expected to be used predominantly for the design, construction, adoption and maintenance of new residential streets, but it is also applicable to existing residential streets subject to re-design. Or new streets, it advocates a return to more traditional patterns which are easier to assimilate into existing built-up areas and which have been proven to stand the test of time in many ways. The Manual aims to assist in the creation of streets that: help to build and strengthen the communities they serve; meet the needs of all users, by embodying the principles of inclusive design; form part of a well-connected network; are attractive and have their own distinctive identity; are cost-effective to construct and maintain; and are safe.</p>
<p>Streets for All (English Heritage, 2004)</p> <p>Sets out principles of good practice for street management – such as reducing clutter, co-ordinating design and reinforcing local character whilst maintaining safety for all. The guide is intended as a reference manual of good practice for all concerned in the long chain of decision making, including councillors, highway engineers, landscape and urban designers, town planning and conservation staff, amenity societies, contractors and utility companies. It sets out a comprehensive list of general principles for Ground Surfaces, Street Furniture, Traffic Management and Environmental Improvements respectively.</p>
<p>Regional</p>
<p>Bath and North East Somerset (2011). Joint Local Transport Plan (JLTP) 2011-2026 http://www.travelplus.org.uk</p> <p>A Local Transport Plan (LTP) is a five-year document setting out the Local Authorities' objectives for improving transport and detailing the ways in which this is to be achieved.</p> <p>The four councils of Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire have joined up to deliver transport improvements in the West of England. The new Joint Local Transport Plan (JLTP3) covers the period from 2011 to 2026.</p> <p>The vision is of an affordable, low carbon, accessible, integrated, efficient and reliable transport network through which we can achieve a more competitive economy and better connected, more active and healthy communities.</p> <p>The vision will be delivered through a Joint Local Transport Plan based around five key transport goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce carbon emissions; Support economic growth; Promote accessibility; Contribute to better safety, security and health; Improve quality of life and a healthy natural environment
<p>West of England JLTP 3 Delivery Plan 2012/13-2014/15 March 2012 http://www.travelplus.org.uk</p>
<p>The headline figures for the next three years: DfT funding: £107m for major transport schemes, £68m grant for other transport schemes, £32m from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) if our current bid is accepted and other government funding Local funding: £181m of council resources and £33m from other sources.</p>
<p>Local</p>
<p>Bath and North East Somerset, Draft Cycling Supplementary Document (2011)</p> <p>The West of England area has seen impressive increases in cycling over the period of the first two Local Transport Plans with 50% growth 2003/04 to 2008/09. This reflects the significant efforts made by all four councils and key partners in developing programmes for improving infrastructure and promoting cycling including the Cycling City Project.</p> <p>The 2001 Census shows 57% of people travel less than 5km to work indicating there is considerable potential for growth from the current 5% level of cycling. Cycle schemes offer high value for money. It is important that cycling programmes continue over the JLTP3 period to build on the success already achieved.</p>

<p><i>Vision</i></p> <p>A safe and attractive road environment across the network for cycling, supplemented by quality off-road routes, will contribute to establishing a vibrant cycling culture throughout the area. Children will be regularly cycling to school and employees regularly cycling to work and using the bike for short business trips. As a result there will be more people cycling and a noticeable increase in levels of fitness. The Cycling City vision reflects this: More people cycling, more safely, more often.</p> <p>There is considerable scope for cycling to provide a healthy and emission-free alternative to the private car especially for shorter trips. The cyclists' route network is the whole of the road network.</p>
<p>Bath and North East Somerset, Draft Walking Supplementary Document (2011)</p> <p>Nationally the level of walking has been decreasing. According to National Travel Survey figures, total annual walking trips per person fell 24% between 1995/97 and 2008. Contributing factors are increasing journey lengths and rising car use for shorter journeys. Programmes for improving infrastructure and the pedestrian environment, promoting walking, and accessibility planning to reduce the need for longer journeys will be carried out over the Plan period to increase levels of walking. These Programmes will be aimed at increasing walking in the West of England area. This can be achieved by following the five core guidelines below, which define a "walkable" environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected – extent of connectivity to key 'attractors' e.g. public transport, homes, workplaces, and other routes/corridors providing a door-door walking network; • Convivial – Pleasantness interacting with environment and other users of the spaces/routes; • Conspicuous – Extent of safety and invitation e.g. lighting, vegetation clearance, signing, promotion and publicity of routes and opportunities, and surveillance; • Comfortable – Through quality of routes and surrounding spaces and features e.g. maintenance, landscaping, and conveniences; • Convenient – Ability to compete with other modes and options.
<p>Waste</p>
<p>International</p>
<p>Waste Framework Directive (2006/12/EC)</p> <p>The EU is aiming for a significant cut in the amount of rubbish generated, through new waste prevention initiatives, better use of resources, and encouraging a shift to more sustainable consumption patterns.</p> <p>Member States shall take appropriate measures, in cooperation with other Member States where this is necessary or advisable, to establish an integrated and adequate network of disposal installations, taking account of the best available technology not involving excessive costs. The network must enable the Community as a whole to become self-sufficient in waste disposal and the Member States to move towards that aim individually, taking into account geographical circumstances or the need for specialised installations for certain types of waste.</p> <p>It sets out the basic principles such as the waste hierarchy and the polluter pays.</p>
<p>Europe Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)</p> <p>The Directive is intended to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of the landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health. It defines the different categories of waste (municipal waste, hazardous waste, non-hazardous waste and inert waste) and applies to all landfills, defined as waste disposal sites for the deposit of waste onto or into land.</p>
<p>Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE) (2003/108/EC)</p> <p>The Directive aims to minimise the impact of electrical and electronic goods on the environment, by increasing re-use and recycling and reducing the amount of WEEE going to landfill by making producers responsible for financing the collection, treatment, and recovery of waste electrical equipment, and by obliging distributors to allow consumers to return their waste equipment free of charge (came into force by 13 August 2005). (The UK Regulations implementing the WEEE Directive were laid before Parliament on 12 December 2006 and enter into force on 2 January 2007. Non-Statutory Guidance was published on 28 February 2007).</p>
<p>National</p>

Waste Strategy for England 2007

The aim of this document is to break the link between economic growth and waste growth. Most products should be re-used or their materials recycled. Energy should be recovered from other wastes where possible. For a small amount of residual material, landfill will be necessary.

The Government's key objectives are to:

- decouple waste growth (in all sectors) from economic growth and put more emphasis on waste prevention and re-use;
- meet and exceed the Landfill Directive diversion targets for biodegradable municipal waste in 2010, 2013 and 2020;
- increase diversion from landfill of non-municipal waste and secure better integration of treatment for municipal and non-municipal waste;
- secure the investment in infrastructure needed to divert waste from landfill and for the management of hazardous waste; and
- get the most environmental benefit from that investment, through increased recycling of resources and recovery of energy from residual waste using a mix of technologies.

PPS 10 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management 2005 and A Companion guide to PPS 10 Nov 2005

PPS10 sets out the Government's policy to be taken into account by waste planning authorities and forms part of the national waste management plan for the UK.

Key Planning Objectives are;

- Address waste as a resource – disposal as a last option
- Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibilities for their own waste
- Reflect concerns and interests of communities
- Protect Green Belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of facilities
- Ensure design and layout of new developments supports sustainable waste management

Regional**West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document (adopted March 2011)**

Councils in the West of England (Bath & North East Somerset, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, and Bristol) have produced the Joint Waste Core Strategy, a Development Plan to set out the vision and objectives for sustainable waste management, which sets the planning framework up to 2026 reflecting the waste hierarchy. It contains Development Management Policies and has superseded most of the Local Plan waste management policies.

Local**TOWARDS ZERO WASTE 2020; A Waste Strategy for Bath & North East Somerset 2005 – 2010**

This strategy details the steps we need to take now and over the next 5 years to reduce the amount of waste that we produce, to recycle as much as possible and to develop new ways of treating the remaining waste to maximise its value and divert it from landfill.

A. Key development areas for the strategy over the next 5 years.

Arrest Waste Growth

Develop new programmes to increase community engagement on waste issues

Invest further in education & campaigning on waste awareness issues

Focus on the longer term

Develop appropriate local infrastructure

